



30P

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## THE SCIENCE of AGELESS AGEING

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Election planning in confusion

# 'Women only' Labour seats ruled illegal

By PHILIP WEBSTER, PAUL WILKINSON AND FRANCES GIBB

LABOUR'S election planning was thrown into confusion yesterday when its policy of preventing men from standing in dozens of parliamentary seats was declared illegal.

The party immediately froze the selection process in 14 constituencies, nine of which were close to making a choice from women-only shortlists. But it is almost certain to appeal against an industrial tribunal's judgment that the policy amounted to sexual discrimination.

Labour also claimed that the ruling would not affect the 34 seats where women have already been chosen to fight the next election. It is confident that the judgment cannot be retrospective, and other unsuccessful candidates are thought unlikely to lodge discrimination claims.

The Leeds tribunal's decision is nevertheless an embarrassing blow to the leadership and it was greeted gleefully by the Conservatives, whose deputy chairman, Michael Trend, derided the policy as a "blatant exercise in sexism and political correctness".

Under the scheme, introduced two years ago, half the candidates in "winnable" seats and half where the MPs retiring have to be women. Tony Blair had already made plain that the rule would apply only for the current Parliament, and many in the male-dominated Parliamentary Labour Party will privately be pleased at the ruling. But with an election possible within months, the last thing Mr Blair wants is for constituents



Peter Jepson, left, and Roger Dyas-Elliott

cies to be left without candidates while a legal dispute is resolved.

Yesterday's ruling is not binding on other cases, but it is regarded as a good indication of how the courts would regard the issue. Labour may now lodge an appeal to the Employment Appeal Tribunal for a definitive ruling, but it will also have to weigh up the practicalities of becoming embroiled in further legal action as the election looms.

An appeal could take anything up to 20 months — well past the latest date for an election — and although the appeal tribunal could give a binding ruling, such a decision would probably be challenged in higher courts. If an election were called in the meantime, Labour would swiftly have to impose candidates, who would be denied the advantage of getting to know the electorate.

The case had been brought by Peter Jepson, 45, and Roger Dyas-Elliott, 49, who were supported in their challenge by the Equal Opportunities Commission. They claimed that the shortlists amounted to unfair discrimination and contradicted party policy which stated that Labour

aimed to "promote equality of opportunity".

After a two-day hearing last month, the tribunal chairman, John Prophet, said Labour's policy amounted to sexual discrimination, but the tribunal did not use its powers to award compensation or order any action to remedy the bias.

Mr Jepson, a law lecturer who was rejected by two London constituencies, described the decision as the death knell for all-women shortlists and said that he might reapply.

But Mr Dyas-Elliott said he would not force the Keighley Labour Party in West Yorkshire to reconsider him. He would support the widow of the constituency's former MP Bob Cryer, who has been selected to fight the seat. "I do not want to rock the boat, but I see this as a moral victory and I don't want any redress."

Tom Sawyer, Labour's general secretary, expressed surprise at the ruling, which he described as a setback. "We do not believe it to be correct and we have proceeded throughout in the belief we have been acting in accordance with the law," he said. "We will be urgently and seriously considering with our legal advisers the question of an appeal."

"We respect the tribunal's declaration and accordingly, for the time being, we will put all outstanding all-women shortlists on hold until we have had time to consider the judgment." Other officials emphasised that suspending the selections did not imply

*Continued on page 2, col 4*



Times Square, almost deserted yesterday as 22 inches of snow covered New York. The usually violent city has had no murders since Saturday

## New York muggers frozen off streets

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE weather in New York was so bad yesterday that even the muggers stayed at home. Police said that the city, which usually has three or four murders a day, had seen no homicides, stabbings or robberies since Saturday night.

Officers did venture out into the blizzard to check reports that naked people were hurling snowballs at each other. The belligerents turned out to be visitors from California, where the temperature was 80F. Asked if the police arrested them, one officer confided: "Nah, we just watched."

The heavy snow brought good luck for some city car-buyers. As a publicity stunt, Potamkin Automotive Centre promised customers they could have cars they had recently leased free if more than four inches of snow fell in Central Park yesterday. The dealer will now have to pay leases of up to \$300 (£156) a month on about 100 luxury sedans. He says he is insured.

The worst blizzard in decades dumped up to three feet of snow along the East Coast yesterday, smothering cities from Washington to Boston. With 22 inches blanketing

New York, the Big Apple was transformed into a country hamlet with no cars, no crime and residents skiing in the streets. Normally toruous neighbours exchanged greetings, and strangers strolling on Fifth Avenue swapped "high five" handshakes.

Schools closed, New York harbour turned ships away,

the United Nations shut down and most of the New York commodity exchanges took the day off. The New York Stock Exchange opened for just three hours. Even the local ice-hockey team cancelled its game. Snowdrifts up to 20 feet

swathe through Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts with more than 24 hours of continuous snowfall.

Fred Gadomski, a meteorologist at Penn State University, predicted that the blizzard would be the "greatest snowstorm" to hit the area since records began 125 years ago.

Roads in New Jersey were closed to all but emergency vehicles, and police were authorised to impound cars that ignored the ban.

23 die. Page 8

### Lynch mob grabs jet crash crew

An angry crowd tried to lynch four Russian crew members of a cargo plane that crashed into a crowded market in Zaire, killing more than 250 people, most of them women and children.

The police saved the four from the mob and took them into custody, while fellow officers were looking for a Ukrainian and a Zairian who were also in the crew.

*Jet crash, page 4*

### £14m prize is still unclaimed

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

AN investigation by the National Lottery organiser has pinpointed when and where tickets were sold to the mystery winner of a third of last Saturday's record £42 million jackpot who has still not claimed their prize.

Two of the three ticket-holders known to have won £14 million each in Saturday's rollover draw have so far come forward and have asked to remain anonymous.

A spokeswoman for Camelot said that the company had ruled out the possibility that the outstanding winner might be a commercial syndicate. The company estimates that the mystery winner is losing up to £2,500 in interest every day.

Former and present heads of state, politicians of all

## World leaders pay tribute after Mitterrand dies at 79

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

WORLD leaders paid tribute yesterday to François Mitterrand, the longest-serving French President, who has died at the age of 79.

After a long battle with prostate cancer, Mitterrand died in his sleep at 8.30am yesterday morning in the apartment adjoining his Paris office near the Eiffel Tower.

The former Socialist president, who left office in May after two seven-year terms, will be buried after a private service on Thursday at his family's tomb in Jarnac, in southwestern France. Thursday has been declared a national day of mourning, to be marked by a Mass at Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris, where world leaders are expected to attend.

Shades, diplomats, enemies and allies praised the statesman and intellectual who presided over France for longer than either Napoleon or Charles de Gaulle.

"He made an outstanding

contribution to public life," John Major said, while applauding the "exceptional courage and dignity" with which he faced his final illness.

Baroness Thatcher, who shared the world stage with Mitterrand, not always amicably, for more than a decade, said: "By his bearing and his culture, he came to symbolise something of the essential France."

President Chirac, twice defeated by Mitterrand in his bid to become leader, said: "Over 14 years, Mitterrand wrote an important page in the history of our country."

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With his brother, Ian, 39, and Mr Trachtenberg, 42, he also denies conspiring to defraud pensioners of shares worth £22 million in another Israeli company, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries.

### Maxwell trial jury retires

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE jury in the Maxwell trial spent last night in a hotel after retiring and considering its verdict for 4½ hours.

The seven women and five men have heard more than 70 witnesses in the [2] day trial of Kevin and Ian Maxwell — the sons of the late media magnate Robert Maxwell — and Larry Trachtenberg, a former adviser to the Maxwell.

Kevin Maxwell, 36, the only defendant to give evidence, denies conspiring with his father to defraud pensioners of shares worth £100 million in Scitec Corporation, an Israeli computer imaging firm.

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feated by Mitterrand in his bid to become leader, said:

"Over 14 years, Mitterrand wrote an important page in the history of our country."

Bob Abberley, the head of health at Unison, the NHS staffs union, said:

"Whatever this individual's qualities, this is the NHS market gone mad. The solution to national shortages is to train up more people in the specialties not to go shopping abroad."

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الصلوة من الصلاة

## Shephard sanctions more selection in state schools

By JOHN O'LEARY  
EDUCATION EDITOR



GILLIAN SHEPHARD announced a decisive shift towards selection in state schools yesterday when she proposed allowing one in seven pupils to be chosen on academic ability.

The Education and Employment Secretary issued plans to scrap regulations limiting selection to a narrow range of subjects and raise the number of places that comprehensive schools are able to reserve. Schools would be allowed to set their own tests, as well as interviewing pupils and parents. For the past three

years, state schools have been allowed to choose 10 per cent of pupils for aptitude in technology, languages, music, drama or sport without applying for a formal change of character. But ministers have until now drawn a firm distinction between specialisation and general academic selection.

With Labour also embracing specialisation, Mrs Shephard has seized the opportunity to place "clear blue water" between the parties in an area where the Opposition is thought to be vulnerable. As disclosed in *The Times* last November, she proposes to raise the limit to 15 per cent and leave schools to determine their own

selection criteria. By halving the length of the circular sent to schools, Mrs Shephard said she was cutting down the "forest of regulation and rigid bureaucracy" surrounding admissions arrangements. The new guidance would cover all state schools, but would be employed mainly by the grant-maintained sector, which until now has had to apply to ministers for any change of character.

The draft circular said Mrs Shephard considered the distinction between subjects available for specialisation "somewhat artificial". She proposed to allow 15 per cent of a school's intake to be selected "in any

subject or combination of subjects, or by general ability".

Both Labour and the Liberal Democrats are strongly opposed to academic selection. Mrs Shephard was accused immediately of reducing parental choice and reviving the IL-plus by the back door.

Teacher unions were united in their opposition. David Hart, the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "Permitting schools to select up to 15 per cent of pupils generally is a substantial extension of selective education by any standards. It risks harming the interests of those pupils whose parents fail to achieve their

preference by the operation of selection procedures."

Graham Lane, chairman of the education committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said: "The Government is simultaneously abandoning its commitment to parental choice and further undermining the comprehensive principle that every child should have equal access to a good school within reach of their home."

*Local Schools Information*, a pressure group opposed to opting out, said the extension of selection could be challenged in the courts.

Leading article, page 17

## Tory Left plotting against me, says defiant Portillo

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL PORTILLO accused enemies in the Conservative Party of running a campaign against him yesterday. His supporters claimed there was a left-wing plot to end his leadership chances.

A day after John Major called for an end to Tory infighting, the Defence Secretary gave a radio interview from Japan in which he claimed that a campaign had been whipped up against him. He told the *Today* programme on BBC Radio 4: "That's one of the things you have to live

with in politics." Asked if he thought he was a special target, Mr Portillo replied: "Well, so it seems, but I make no complaint about that."

The assertion swiftly sparked new complaints against him that he had ignored the Prime Minister's call for a truce. Last week he irritated some ministers and MPs by attacking Emma Nicholson over her defection from the Tories. Yesterday he provoked further criticism by saying that there was no room in the Conservative Party for

MPs demanding a federal Europe.

Supporters of Mr Portillo suggested last night that the repeated sniping was part of a concerted, long-term strategy by leftwingers to discredit him and end his chances of becoming a future Tory party leader.

"They have already conceded defeat and their aim is to stop Michael ever becoming leader after the election," one right-wing MP said.

Peter Temple-Morris, a leading Tory leftwinger, said Mr Portillo's claims about a "campaign against him" were "simplistic and only serve to reopen the argument".

Mr Portillo showed no sign of backing away from his hardline stance over Europe. Asked whether there was room in the Tory party for MPs demanding economic and monetary union, he said: "Not if they believe, of course, in a United States of Europe. That is something the Conservative Party is against."

Mr Portillo also hardened his criticism of Miss Nicholson, who defected to the Liberal Democrats. In contrast to the Prime Minister's conciliatory references to Miss Nicholson on Sunday, Mr Portillo said: "The fact of the matter is that Emma Nicholson did show disloyalty to two prime ministers in a row and I said that fairly and squarely and I don't think there can be any denying that."

Meanwhile, the internal Tory struggle for supremacy over Europe continued with pro-Europeans opening up a campaign to put the case for a single currency and calling on Eurosceptics to stop confusing voters with "Euro-pessimism and myths".

The European Movement, backed by several Tory MPs, pointed to poll evidence suggesting that more than half those questioned wanted closer co-operation between EU countries with Britain playing a leading role.

Speaking in Tokyo yesterday, Mr Portillo provoked condemnation from veterans of Japanese POW camps when he underlined the Government's support for Japan to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council and gave his personal backing for closer co-operation between the British and Japanese military.

Bill Hollis, chairman of the Japanese Labour Camps Survivors Association, said the Japanese should not be considered as a permanent member of the Security Council "until they have wiped the slate clean of the terrible cruelties they inflicted on our people".

Howls of outrage from the Tory Left failed to deter him. Two days later in the Philippines, Mr Portillo returned to the attack. Yesterday, despite a plaintive appeal from John Major, Mr Portillo was still stoking the flames in Tokyo.

Mr Blair has joined in the fun. His first speech in Tokyo on January 5, telling Japanese businessmen they had nothing to fear from a Labour government, made a modest impact — until Michael Heseltine, returning from the Italian resort of Amalfi, accused the Labour leader of playing a "confidence trick".

After Mr Major's interview with Sir David Frost, in which he admitted his party would lose the election unless it stopped squabbling, Mr Blair intervened from Singapore to say that the Conservatives were finished. It was then a small step to unveil Labour's "big idea" — the stakeholder society — some 6,000 miles from home.

The saga began on New Year's Day in the Emirates, when Mr Portillo, promoting defence sales, used a BBC interview to wade into Miss

Nicholson over her defection to the Liberal Democrats. He hinted that other Tory MPs sharing her federalist views would be better off following her example.

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## Political abuse tops export drive

By NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FROM the Middle East to Japan, bemused foreigners will be breathing a sigh of relief that Parliament resembles today. Although you could be forgiven for not noticing, the Commons has been in recess.

That has not stopped our most senior politicians from carrying on the war by other means. Tory splits, which normally reverberate no further than our own shores, have turned up as far afield as the Philippines. Tony Blair's "big idea" has been launched in Singapore. And British arms sales to Saudi Arabia have been robustly defended in Delhi.

For the Tories, most of their political rivals are inside their own party, which helps to explain Michael Portillo's turbulent Pacific odyssey. Before he left Britain, Emma Nicholson was scarcely a household name in her own household. Now she has been savaged from the United Arab Emirates to Japan.

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acceptance of the ruling. The nine constituencies that were close to choosing women candidates were Gravesend, Great Yarmouth, Warrington, Salford, Bolton West, Blackpool North, Stretford, Rochdale and Bury.

Five others in the North,

South Wales and Leicester

were to start selection soon.

Leading lawyers have been

at odds about the legality of the all-women lists. The Equal Opportunities Commission obtained an opinion last year from Michael Belfoff, QC, who thought it was lawful. But Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC, another expert in the field, said it was not.

The argument hinged on

whether Labour fell within the

exceptions provided under the Sex Discrimination Act. These

include the internal activities of political parties unless — as the European Court of Justice recently held — the selection of candidates for a shortlist is considered to be engagement in a profession or trade.

James Goudie QC, who represented Labour at last month's hearing, had argued that MPs were neither employees, nor did they work in a profession.

Letters, page 17

## Opera House staff threaten one-day strikes

By DALY ALBERGE  
AND ALASDAIR STEVEN

STAFF at the Royal Opera House voiced a chorus of disapproval yesterday, declaring a lack of confidence in the management. Fearing up to 200 redundancies and demoralised by a pay freeze dating back to 1992, they threatened to stage a series of one-day strikes.

At a meeting attended by about 200

members, staff called for Jeremy Isaacs, the general director, to "be prepared to answer questions". Keith Cooper, director of corporate affairs, was unable to specify the exact number of redundancies yesterday but did not dismiss the 200 figure as too high. He blamed the decline in private funding and said: "It's very sad that we have not been able to convince a section of our staff of the enormity of the financial problems facing the house. Redundancies

are always a last resort and we will work hard to demonstrate why this regrettable step is necessary to balance the books."

The Royal Opera House was recently awarded £55 million from the National Lottery towards its £200 million redevelopment. It is cutting the number of new productions for the new season from seven to two.

Libby Purves, page 16

Continued from page 1

acceptance of the ruling. The nine constituencies that were close to choosing women candidates were Gravesend, Great Yarmouth, Warrington, Salford, Bolton West, Blackpool North, Stretford, Rochdale and Bury.

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Letters, page 17

## THE HIT THAT STILL HAUNTS ANDY KERSHAW.

Andy Kershaw, taking time off from Radio 1 to report from Rwanda. Our journalists and commentators scour the world for momentous, interesting and off-beat stories. 'From Our Own Correspondent', 11.30 Saturday and Thursday mornings.

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## Dorrell demands fairer NHS care

Unacceptable variations in the quality of health care in different parts of the country must be dealt with. Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, said last night. Denying recent warnings that the NHS would be unable to provide universal free care, Mr Dorrell said equity was a key principle.

Highlighting variations in Caesarean rates, coronary bypass rates and grommet operations for "glue ear", he said that responsibility for challenging such variations rested firmly with health authorities and GPs.

### Lottery bribe row

Richard Branson told Peter Davis, the lottery regulator, yesterday that he would not give evidence to an independent inquiry into claims he was offered a bribe to withdraw from the contest to run the National Lottery. He said the inquiry would not "command public confidence".

Balloon race, page 9

### Police cash plea

The Chief Constable of Warwickshire, Peter Judd, is to plead with the Home Office today for extra money to avoid further cuts in resources. Yesterday he said a £6 million pound shortfall this year had meant station closures and a recruitment freeze, adding: "We are managing on a shoestring."

### Meningitis birth

Stacey Cunniff, aged 17, a meningitis victim was "improving" last night after undergoing a Caesarean operation to save her unborn son. Callum was delivered seven weeks prematurely and has shown no signs of infection. A spokeswoman at South Cleveland Hospital, Middlesbrough.

### Parrot man jailed

Alan Griffiths, a retired vet who smuggled the eggs of rare parrots into Britain from Australia, was jailed for eight months yesterday at Swansea Crown Court. Griffiths, 68, of Llanbister, South Glamorgan, admitted conspiracy to import endangered species and was ordered to forfeit £20,000.

### Planning bonus

Oxford City Council will gain at least £2 million if it grants planning permission later this month for a £17 million leisure development near the city's railway station. The 6½-acre Oxpens development site is owned jointly by the local council and Railtrack.

### Salut! to genes

The protective effect of alcohol against heart disease depends on the genes of the drinker. French scientists have discovered those with the "right" genes who drink at least 50 grams of alcohol a day, equivalent to six glasses of wine, halved their risk of a heart attack.

### School bus death

A 14-year-old boy was dragged to his death under the wheels of a school bus yesterday when his bag apparently caught in the folding doors after he alighted. The accident was witnessed by the boy's mother, who was travelling behind the bus on her way to collect him.



"I watched as the bomb flipped the lorry over like a beer mat and wreckage poured over our jeep. We didn't drive off in case we ran over a landmine..."

denies sex  
on bus  
protesters

## Rescuers order stranded sailors to jump ship

By PETER FOSTER  
AND VEENA SHAH

A ROYAL NAVY helicopter crew rescued five sailors from the Atlantic yesterday after ordering them to jump into the 30ft waves from the deck of their stricken ship.

The men were on the 4,000-tonne Romanian cargo vessel *Covasna*, which was adrift in force 9 gales 300 miles southwest of Cape Finisterre on the Spanish coast. They had remained on board after the captain ordered 17 other crewmen to abandon ship in two lifeboats.

A Lynx helicopter from HMS *Northumberland* found the ship pitching so violently to risk trying to winch the men from the deck in lashing rain and winds of almost 40 knots. Instead the Navy crew dropped survival suits and lifejackets on to the quarterdeck. The five were winched from the sea after donning the suits and jumping overboard.

Commander Steve Bramley, captain of *Northumberland*, which was on her way to the South Atlantic, said the five men were cold and tired but uninjured. A Russian tanker picked up the other 17 crew. Last night a Spanish tug was expected to take the *Covasna* in tow.

In Scotland a passenger ferry, bound for Aberdeen from the Faroe Islands steamed into Invigoration harbour on the Cromarty Firth a day and a half late after being delayed by storms and turned away by harbour masters at Aberdeen. The 4,269-tonne *Smyril* normally makes the 400-mile trip in 22 hours but, when she docked at 9.30pm on Sunday she had been at sea for more than two and a half days.

Most of the 52 people on board were students returning to resume their studies in Scotland. Rigm Hammer, 22, of Robert Gordon's University in Aberdeen, said: "Our troubles started as we left the islands. We were sailing into the teeth of a force 9 gale the whole way. The crew had to lash the chairs together to stop them being thrown round the saloon."

Sopus Poulson, the Faroe Islands Commercial Attaché in Scotland, said: "It was an experience for the passengers, but the ship performed very well in atrocious conditions."

In Cornwall a chain ferry that carries cars and pedestrians across the River Fal to the Roseland peninsula broke down in mid-stream after high winds caused the chain to jam. Engineers worked for two hours to free the ferry, which was carrying eight cars, the pilot and the ticket collector.

## Monk denies sex assault on boys

By ADRIAN LEE

A MONK sexually abused six boys while he was a headmaster, a court was told yesterday. John Dyer, 55, known as Brother Cyril, was head of St John's College, in Southsea, Hampshire, for ten years.

At Winchester's Crown Court, Mr Dyer, of the Roman Catholic order of De La Salle,

denied eight charges of indecently assaulting the six pupils between 1985 and 1994.

Tim Compton, for the prosecution, alleged most of the assaults by Dyer took place in dormitories. Some of the boys, all aged under 16 when the alleged attacks took place, will give evidence by television link.

Mr Compton said that during one assault Dyer called himself "the lesser spotted phantom bottom biter". One schoolboy was assaulted after a cricket match, it was alleged.

Mr Compton said: "The defendant assaulted and touched these boys quite deliberately in circumstances

## Manageress fights for job after violence at club's prizegiving

# Champion woman golfer punched man off bar stool

By ANDREW PIERCE

A CHAMPION woman golfer punched a six-foot businessman from his bar stool at the club where she worked after claiming that he had stroked her thigh, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday. Philomena Vaughan, 42, a Welsh champion, was at a prizegiving ceremony at the course where she was shop manageress when she suddenly shouted: "Don't touch me," and delivered two right hooks, knocking John Price to the floor in the crowded bar of the £450-a-year Dewstow Golf Club at Caerwent, Gwent.

Mrs Vaughan, 42, who was a Welsh gold medal winner and a county player, had been three-times club champion and had a handicap of 14. She was stripped of her titles after an internal inquiry and sacked from her salary post two months later. The fit six-mother of four claimed that Mr Price slid his hand beneath her long waistcoat and caressed her thigh as she walked past him after receiving her awards.

A club inquiry rejected her claim of sexual harassment and concluded that the county golfer, who had collected several trophies at the ceremony, was "the worse for wear" and had misinterpreted the incident. Mrs Vaughan, but not Mr Price, was suspended. Mrs Vaughan, who is being backed by the Equal Opportunities Commission, is claiming uns

fair dismissal and sexual discrimination. Mr Price, who was accompanied to the prizegiving by his wife, denied indecently assaulting Mrs Vaughan, whose husband Peter was also present. He said that he had tried to remove a cigarette which was attached to the bottom of her cardigan.

Details of the flare-up spread like wildfire around the club. Mr Price, agitated at the rumours, demanded an internal investigation to try to clear his name. Mr Price's wife Pamela, another club member, told the hearing: "Mrs Vaughan had won quite a few trophies. She said the ladies captain was an old bitch. She called them old sods and said she would fight them all the way. Then she invited them to sack her," he said.

Mr Marshall said she launched a "trade of abuse" against Elwyn Harris, the club committee chairman. "She made insolent, derogatory and taunting remarks. She said the ladies captain was an old bitch. She called them old sods and said she would fight them all the way. Then she invited them to sack her," he said.

Mr Price said: "I was only trying to help her. She hit me on the arm and then in the throat. It was all over in a millisecond and I ended up on the floor. I complained after receiving reports of various accusations against me including one from a customer who had heard I had been touching someone up."

Clive Lewis, representing Mrs Vaughan, said the club had discriminated by handling the two complaints in different ways. The club denies unfair dismissal and sex discrimination. The hearing, which is expected to last for three days, continues.



Philomena Vaughan: stripped of her titles after being "the worse for wear"

## Thompson describes years of marriage break-up

By ANDREW PIERCE



Branagh and Thompson sharing success in 1993, when their marriage had already begun to founder

EMMA THOMPSON, speaking for the first time about her separation from Kenneth Branagh, has disclosed that their marriage began to founder more than three years before the break-up was announced in October.

Problems arose before rumours began about Mr Branagh's friendship with Helena Bonham Carter, whom he met in 1993 on the set of *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*. "Our separation had nothing to do with anyone else," Miss Thompson, 36, said in an interview in *Vanity Fair*.

The difficulties began about the time that Miss Thompson won an Oscar for her role in *Howards End*, effectively eclipsing Mr Branagh's assault on Hollywood. He had been regarded as the brighter prospect of the two and wrote his autobiography when he was 28.

"I committed every molecule to my marriage, so relinquishing it has been very hard. It's been like breaking your fingers as you let go," she said. Despite the sorrow they remained close friends:

"Ken will always be family. That is a decent relationship if one does not have something that forces you into it."

The actress declined to discuss Mr Branagh's friendship with Miss Bonham Carter or her own reported liaison with Greg Wise, who stars with her in *Sense and Sensibility*, her adaption of Jane Austen's novel that has won two awards and five Golden Globe nominations.

Asked if she had an affair with Mr Wise, she replied: "That's a separate issue. It involves a third party who is not here and cannot speak for himself."

Miss Thompson appears on the magazine cover dressed as Henry V, a role her husband played in 1989. Other photographs show her semi-naked. Asked if she thought she was sexy, she said: "In private, yes. I think of myself as sexual in a human way, but not as a kind of a bombshell. I tend to represent ordinary women."

The couple, who married in 1989, enjoyed critical acclaim for *Much Ado About Nothing* in 1993. Miss Thompson was nominated for another academy award for *The Remains of the Day* in 1993 and shortlisted the following year for *In the Name of the Father*.

She expressed no regrets at the fact the couple have no children. "I have no feelings of that sort. I would have thought one is more likely to maintain a

## Lottery cash for charity with link to riots

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the organisations that degenerated into the Brixton riot last month has been employed by a charity that was awarded more than £200,000 of National Lottery money. Lee Jasper started work yesterday as temporary co-ordinator of the 1990 Trust, which has been given the cash to set up a "black information link".

The initiative is for an online database at community centres across the country to provide information to the black and Asian communities on race, housing, employment, local authorities and Westminster. The National Lottery Board said the 1990 Trust met the criteria for being awarded cash to relieve poverty.

Mr Jasper, until recently a trustee of the charity, is a key figure in the National Black Caucus, which organised the protest in Brixton over the death in police custody of Wayne Douglas.

Mr Jasper, 37, a father of five, was one of several people who spoke at the protest before rioting broke out on the streets, causing £1 million of damage to commercial premises. He said that the 1990 Trust provided material, including research documents, to support the National Black Caucus.

"The trust has a credible record in the field of the voluntary sector," he said. "It has proved itself and it is well-respected by funders and has received grants from many funders."

The organisation has met the Home Secretary, government departments and the Association of Chief Police Officers. In fact the trust is meeting Sir Paul Condon on Thursday to discuss policing in London.

He denied having incited the riots with his speech. "I said that as an organiser of the caucus I was exhausted with looking into the eyes of grieving mothers whose children have died and I urged people to get involved and join organisations to ensure that these things don't happen again."

"Although people would like to portray the organisation as having instigated disturbances, our track record stands scrutiny with the best."

The National Lottery Board said the trust had provided paperwork supporting its application which made clear its links with the National Black Caucus.

The 1990 Trust has received backing from charities including £104,000 from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

## Hi-tech fraudster bribed bank staff

By TIM JONES

A FORMER businessman who lived like a millionaire after bribing young bank employees to reveal customers' details was yesterday jailed for five years.

Michael Boparan chose teenagers who worked at National Westminster Bank's card transaction headquarters for his £1.3 million fraud. Southwark Crown Court was told, offering £100 a time for computer printouts.

Working with Russell Jones, 27, who had a reputation for violence, he obtained details of gold and platinum card holders which were then encoded on to forged bank cards.

Police solved the case after a beat constable noticed that a car parked outside Boparan's home had an out-of-date tax disc. Inside, officers discovered dozens of fake credit cards and a laptop computer bearing Boparan's fingerprints.

But while Boparan, 30, lived in style at his home in St

John's Wood, north London, the young bank staff he and others recruited scarcely benefited. Although the operation would not have been possible without them, the court was told that three former employees, Karen Baigent, 21, and Deborah Hill, 19, both of Southend, and Paul Deacon, 20, of Canvey Island, Essex, netted about £3,000.

The two women were ordered to perform 240 hours' community service and Deacon was sentenced to three months' youth detention. Karine Evans, 22, of Southend, who, with the other three, pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy, will be dealt with later.

Jones, of Southend, was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud banks and will be sentenced later before being tried on other serious charges. Bulent Osman, 30, of Kenton, southeast London, was acquitted of one charge of conspiracy to defraud.

## Lloyds Bank Interest Rates for Personal Customers

### SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Investment Account	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£100,000+	5.65	4.24	5.51	4.13
£ 50,000+	5.45	4.09	5.32	3.99
£ 25,000+	5.25	3.94	5.13	3.85
£ 10,000+	5.00	3.75	4.89	3.67
Below £10,000	0.50	0.38	0.50	0.38

30 Day Savings	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£25,000+	4.10	3.08	4.02	3.02
£10,000+	3.90	2.93	3.83	2.87
£ 5,000+	3.70	2.78	3.64	2.73
Below £5,000	0.50	0.38	0.50	0.38

Instant Savings Account	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£25,000+	4.00	3.00	3.93	2.95
£10,000+	3.75	2.81	3.69	2.77
£ 5,000+	3.25	2.44	3.20	2.40
£ 2,500+	2.90	2.18	2.86	2.15
Below £2,500	1.00	0.75	1.00	0.75

Deposit Account	Half-yearly Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£1+	0.25	0.19	0.25	0.19

Interest rates may vary from time to time. This applies to new rates.

UK - The annual interest rate after deduction of basic rate



'My wife sacrificed her life to save our boys — no mother could do more than that'

## Woman killed as she pushes sons from path of car

By PAUL WILKINSON

A YOUNG mother on a country walk with her family was killed as she pushed her two children from the path of a car that was spinning out of control.

As Karine Ratcliffe, 31, took the full impact of the crashing car, her sons Martin, 9, and John, 6, were flung into a hedge. They and their father, Ian, suffered only cuts and bruises.

Yesterday Mr Ratcliffe, 38, said: "My wife sacrificed her own life to save our boys. No mother could possibly do more than that — they owe their lives to her. It was typical of her to do something so selfless. She loved the boys more than anything."

The couple's eldest child Alison, 14, had missed the family's regular Sunday walk to visit friends. Martin and John were told of their mother's death by a hospital com-

moner. "It was a terrible moment," Mr Ratcliffe said. "They were amazingly brave and very good. They were little soldiers."

The accident happened on the winding B1325 at Earsdon, near the Ratcliffe home at Holywell, North Tyneside. The car, a Ford Escort, was approaching the family from behind when it moved to avoid an oncoming van and apparently clipped the verge, causing the driver to lose control.

A spokesman for Northumbria Police said: "Mrs Ratcliffe took the force of the collision. It was a terrible tragedy and an awful thing for those two children to see."

Mr Ratcliffe said: "We were walking in single file, facing oncoming traffic. I was at the front, the boys were in the middle and my wife at the back. We always did it that way."

"I saw a van coming towards us and could hear a car coming from behind. Just as the van passed there was a screech of brakes. I looked over my shoulder and saw the car coming straight at us and Karine was pushing the two boys out of the way with both hands. The car hit her full on but only clipped the boys because she had managed to get them clear. We were all knocked over."

"When I got up I could see my wife was in a bad way. Both her legs were broken and the back wheel had pinned against the hawthorn hedge and she clearly had crush and head injuries."

Martin and John had been thrown into the hawthorns and Mr Ratcliffe had ended up beneath the car's exhaust pipe. Mrs Ratcliffe was pinned to the ground and drivers from the nearby Beehive Inn used their bare hands to help to lift the car off her.

Elspeth McCall, the pub's assistant manager, said: "It's been an awful scene and the poor lady looked to be in a very bad way. There were quite a few motorists who stopped to help and together they moved the car."

The family were badly shocked. I took blankets for everyone and we all tried to offer what comfort we could to the children and father until



Ian Ratcliffe yesterday with his sons John, 6, and Martin, 9. All three were injured when a car hit and killed the boys' mother Karine

the ambulances arrived."

Mrs Ratcliffe was taken to North Tyneside General Hospital where she was certified dead.

The three children spent Sunday night with relatives. "I wanted to be on my own," Mr Ratcliffe said. "I sat up all night in the dark just thinking about Karine and what she

did. I have been struggling to get my thoughts together."

"Somehow I have to be strong for the children and try to fill the gap left by her, but I know that's impossible. She was a lovely jolly lass, in fact her maiden name was Jolly."

Last week was wonderful. It was her birthday on January 2 and our tenth wedding anni-

versary the next day. Now everything is gone and life will not be the same again for any of us. I can't describe how much we will miss her. She was everything to me and the children."

Mr Ratcliffe helped out part-time at Seaton Delaval First School, where his sons were pupils. She had recently

given up her job as a cook with the Territorial Army's medical unit at Fenham barracks in Newcastle upon Tyne to be with her family.

The Ford Escort driver, a 21-year-old man from Whitley Bay, has been interviewed by police. A decision on whether he should face charges will be taken later.

## Victim in safety vest survives shooting

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN wearing a bullet-proof vest survived a shooting in Moss Side, Manchester, yesterday. Darrell Laycock, 22, was shot in the head and body and his companion, Adele Abdela, 19, was wounded in the arm and hand.

The couple, who were hit by 22 bullets, were put under police armed guard in hospital. Police sources confirmed that Mr Laycock, whose condition was described as stable, had been questioned and released after the murder ten days ago of a suspected drug dealer, Raymond Pitt, 20. Another man was charged with the killing.

Detectors were investigating the possibility that yesterday's shooting, which happened at about 1am on Alexandra Park, an estate notorious for drug dealing, was a revenge attack for Mr Pitt's murder.

Superintendent Lillian King, Moss Side sub-divisional commander, said: "I can reassure the local community we are deploying all available resources. Our main concern is to protect law-abiding people, who form the vast majority of the community." □ Twenty-two people were arrested in the Witton area of Birmingham after fighting between rival groups of Asians began on Sunday night and ended at Sam yesterday.

A taxi was petrol-bombed, a man was stabbed in the leg and police seized 20 weapons, including a machete and rice flails. Officers met community leaders to establish the cause and to try to avoid more violence.

## Iron lady steels will of polar explorer

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE explorer David Hempleman-Adams, the first Briton to walk solo and unsupported to the South Pole, said yesterday he had been inspired by advice in Baroness Thatcher's autobiography when he was about to give up.

As he battled with an injured back through a blizzard dragging a 20st sledge, he recalled reading how she had been told as a child that it was easy to be a starter, but was she a finisher?

"I'm no great fan of hers but I did remember reading this in *The Downing Street Years*," said the 39-year-old father-of-three, speaking just hours after arriving in Chile from the two-month voyage to the Pole. "I also thought of my daughter Alicia at school plotting my progress and knew I couldn't give up."

Mr Hempleman-Adams, from Swindon, Wiltshire, has not seen his wife and three daughters for three months. Speaking from his hotel in Punta Arenas, he said he had lost 32lb by the time he finished his 680-mile trek last Friday. He was flown out of the region in a Hercules after becoming stranded in snow when he reached the Pole. The

explorer said that, as he heard his goal, he thought of how Captain Scott of the Antarctic must have felt in 1912 when he reached the same point only to find he had been beaten by Roald Amundsen by a month.

Mr Hempleman-Adams said: "It was strange because I could see the Pole with all the antennae from the US base from about 14 miles away because the air is so clear, but I never seemed to get any closer. I thought of Scott and imagined going all that way to get to this position then seeing a black tent, wondering if it was a rock, and then it dawned on him that he'd been beaten. It must have wiped him out."

He said the initial stages of the journey were among the worst. "The weather was absolutely horrible. I was dragging the sledge into the headwind, up 7ft snow mounds for miles on end and thought 'This is ridiculous!'. He pulled his back when he fell after his sledge became caught.

He said that when he reached the US base, where the temperature was -38C, no one was even out of bed but "it was just fantastic".

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10-11-15-50

Bradford traffic officer shot □ WPC stabbed in face □ vice-squad officer beaten up by five youths

## Police chief condemns 'low life' in violent weekend



By PAUL WILKINSON

A POLICE chief condemned the "degradation" in society and "un-speakable" criminals yesterday after a weekend that left two of his officers with stab and shotgun wounds and a third recovering from a vicious assault.

Keith Hellawell, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, said beat officers were the "heroes of the end of the 20th century" because of the bravery they showed in dealing with violent criminals.

He was speaking after PC Neil Dalby, 36, was shot in the leg shortly before midnight on Sunday by a man fleeing an armed robbery in Bradford.

On Saturday another Bradford

officer, WPC Lisa Sharpe, was stabbed in the face when she tackled a man who was threatening a woman with a knife. WPC Sharpe needed six stitches to her cheek after the attack. A man was remanded in custody by magistrates yesterday in connection with the incident. On Sunday, Sergeant Peter Corkindale, a vice-squad officer, had stiches in his mouth after being assaulted by five youths while he was making inquiries in the city.

PC Dalby, a traffic officer, was shot as he chased four men who had abandoned a stolen car after crashing it in the Osvald district of Bradford. He and a colleague, who had been on routine police duty and who followed the vehicle when

they saw it travelling erratically at high speed, were unaware that the men inside had just carried out an armed robbery at the Ball Park leisure centre.

As PC Dalby followed the fugitives, he was warned to back off and at least one shot was fired. He was hit in the leg and needed emergency surgery for the removal of shotgun pellets from the thigh. He is recovering in Bradford Royal Infirmary. His injuries are not life-threatening and he is said to be comfortable. His colleague, PC Simon Binks, 28, was receiving treatment for shock yesterday.

Mr Hellawell said: "It shows what low life there is in society today. It's been a weekend of policing in Bradford which shows

the sacrifice and bravery of police officers and the violence and unspeakable depths to which some criminals in this country will go in the furtherance of crime."

He said one of the most sickening aspects of the shooting was that only seconds after it happened a piece of electrical equipment was stolen from the stolen car. Police caught the thieves almost immediately.

Mr Hellawell said that although he did not want guns used regularly by police, "this is one circumstance where I would have felt firearms would have been useful to the officer". He said he wanted his officers to have CS gas or pepper sprays. "We've been pressing the Government for about three years

to be issued with some form of propellant. It gives police officers more confidence."

He praised the courage and bravery of his men: "The police officers of this country are the heroes of the end of the 20th century. The people who take the brunt of the violence in this country are the young police officers who walk out on the streets. Every day they put their life at risk."

The shooting happened after the gunman's car crashed into bollards. As PC Dalby, a single man from Bradford, cornered them in an alley, one of the men, a mixed race Asian, turned and fired at him with a shotgun from less than 20 yards. They fled leaving the officer, who is from Bradford, slumped on

the ground and bleeding badly. Fifteen minutes earlier, the four had held up the leisure centre, the home of the Yorkshire County Cricket Club's academy. The gang, wearing masks, had cashed the manager with a shotgun, causing a minor injury, before escaping with cash. Superintendent Nigel Sutcliffe, PC Dalby's station commander, said it was only through sheer luck that PC Dalby was not killed.

"The idea of aiming for a part of the body is a nonsense. He was aiming at the police officer and just happened to hit a fleshy part."

Detectives are treating the shooting as attempted murder. PC Dalby is expected to remain in hospital for at least two weeks.

## Eurostar train puts Kent on timetable

The high-speed Eurostar stopped at a provincial station for the first time yesterday. Previously the 180mph train ran straight from Waterloo station in London through the Channel Tunnel to Paris and Brussels. The new stop at Ashford International Terminal in Kent will not add to journey times, and fares from Ashford will be the same as from London. About nine trains a day are due to stop there.

Leading article, page 17

### Jobcentre case

A woman accused of attempting murder at Bexleyheath Jobcentre in southeast London was remanded in custody. Pearline Ayton, 27, will appear before Bexley magistrate again next Monday charged with trying to kill Simon Bridge, Mandy King, Sonia Fairburn and Robert Wood last week. Her solicitor made no application for bail.

### Court verdict

People in England and Wales are divided over allowing television cameras into court to film for broadcast. A MORI survey of 2,000 people for the BBC found 49 per cent against, 36 per cent in favour and 15 per cent undecided. Sixty-five per cent said they would favour an experiment similar to one in Scotland in 1994, with 27 per cent opposed.

### Carpet cache

A collection of carpets worth up to £450,000 each, assembled by the Bernheimer family of Munich, founders of what was once the largest antiques and decorating firm in the world, is to be auctioned at Christie's in London next month. The carpets, some 500 years old, were hidden in monasteries to save them from Nazi treasure hunters.

### Holiday club risk

Children are being put in danger in badly run, ill-equipped holiday clubs throughout the Mediterranean. *Holiday Which?* says today. Some clubs were run from the backrooms of bars and were overcrowded with little for youngsters to do. At others, children could run unsupervised across busy roads, the magazine reports.

### Zoo charges

Two men charged over the slaughter of a collection of exotic birds were remanded in custody for a week by magistrates at Stratford, east London. James Allen, 19, of Canning Town, and Royson Budge, 18, of Plaistow, were accused of aggravated burglary at Plashet Park Zoo where 36 birds were killed.

### About to receive

A pub and restaurant business owned by the television chef Keith Floyd went into receivership. Grant Thornton, the receivers, said the Malsters at Tuckenhay, Devon, had failed because of losses incurred during its development phase. The inn, opened in 1989, would continue trading while a buyer was sought.

### CORRECTION

A report on sexism in the City (December 21) referred to Samantha Phillips's award of £18,000 last year "after rejecting the advances of a married colleague". While her claim for unfair dismissal was upheld by an industrial tribunal, her allegation that she was sexually harassed by Giles Wilkinson, the colleague concerned, was rejected. We apologise to Mr Wilkinson for the error.

## Ageing population causes huge rise in social workers

By RUSSELL JENKINS

SOCIAL work has become the fastest-growing occupation, with battalions of community care workers, residential care assistants and home helps recruited to look after an ageing population.

The growing army of "carers" outnumbers the nation's "protectors" by a margin of four to one, the caring services can pitch 964,000 social workers into the front line compared with only 238,000 serving in the entire Armed Forces.

Employment figures drawn up by the Central Statistical Office for the Government depict buoyant service industries set against dormant and declining manufacturing and construction sectors. The number working in the construction industry has fallen from 1,116,000 in 1990 to 818,000 last June, and the number employed in manufacturing from 4,605,000 to 3,840,000.

Caring for the elderly is big business and likely to get bigger as the nine million Britons now aged between 50 and 64 reach pensionable age. Their ranks will be swelled in the early decades of the next

century as the post-war "baby boomers" start collecting their pensions. The number of social workers rose by nearly 25 per cent from 794,000 in June 1990 to 964,000 at the same time last year, almost entirely because of the expansion of care for the elderly.

The numbers of social workers employed by local authorities to monitor problem families has fallen slightly and there has been little increase in the number of carers working in residential homes in the public sector. However, the enormous growth in private residential homes in the late 1980s and early 1990s has created a huge market for professional carers such as care assistants and community psychiatrists.

John Findlay, social services national officer for Unison, the public sector union, said that the figures reflected a deep-seated change within society. Families no longer look after the old at home but expect them to be looked after in homes.

This has provided a huge source of employment but, with places costing about £325 a week, at an enormous cost to

taxpayers and the families themselves.

Unison wants ministers to review the tax system to take account of the changes. They favour an increase in National Insurance contributions to take account of the rising costs of looking after the elderly.

The number working in the computer industry and related businesses has risen from 2,300,000 to 2,400,000 during the past five years, and inward investment and industrial construction are significant growth areas.

Elsewhere the figures show a picture of Britain at odds with the upbeat speeches of Trade Department ministers. The number working in the post and telecommunications industry has fallen from 462,000 to 395,000 in the past five years. The number of teachers, doctors and nurses has been roughly static.

In the construction industry, housing has yet to recover from the recession. Gary Roebuck, economic advisor for the Building Employers' Federation, said that about 480,000 jobs – a quarter of its workforce – have been lost since 1989.

The manufacturing sector has lost about 790,000 jobs in the past five years and unemployment in the industry is running at about 16 per cent. Some workers have moved to Germany and other continental countries in search of work and others are being retrained.

Mr Roebuck, reflecting the pessimistic mood among builders and developers, said: "The trend at the moment remains basically slowly downwards."

Kodak verified that the plates taken with the girls' old boy Brownie camera were genuine and the novelist Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, a keen spiritualist, became a firm believer. Despite a close similarity to the fairies depicted by the illustrator Arthur Rackham, the pictures convinced thousands of people that fairies existed.

But in 1983 Elsie, long since married with children of her own, disclosed that it was all a trick to save Frances from being told off by her mother for falling into Cottingley Beck and getting her clothes wet. Now Paramount is planning a film, *The Golden Afternoon*, based on the girls' adventures that day. It will be shot at Pinewood studios and on location in Yorkshire. The



One of the photographs taken by the schoolgirls. The fairies were stuck to toadstools with hatpins

## Cousins' fairy tale casts a spell over Hollywood film-makers

By PAUL WILKINSON

A FAIRY story that intrigued the public for more than 50 years before being revealed as a children's hoax is to be made into a film. In 1917, two schoolgirl cousins, Elsie Wright, 15, and Frances Griffiths, 9, convinced the experts that they had photographed fairies dancing in the woods at Cottingley Dell near Bingley in West Yorkshire.

Kodak verified that the plates taken with the girls' old boy Brownie camera were genuine and the novelist Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, a keen spiritualist, became a firm believer. Despite a close similarity to the fairies depicted by the illustrator Arthur Rackham, the pictures convinced thousands of people that fairies existed.

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The drawings by Elsie Hill were good enough to convince Sir Arthur Conan Doyle they were real

Swedish director Lasse Hallström is to direct and his wife Lena Olin, who starred opposite Daniel Day-Lewis in *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, is tipped for part.

The film will show how Elsie Wright, later Mrs Frank Hill, and Frances, who died in 1986, copied the fairies from *Princess Mary's Gift Book* and used hatpins to stick them to toadstools as if they were dancing on them. They took the photographs to

confirm their story that Frances had been playing with the fairies in the brook. Mrs Hill later told how she had drawn the figures herself using sepia ink and how they cut them out.

Frances cut round the fairies' hands so that experts who studied the pictures became convinced that they were webbed.

The plates were developed by her sceptical father and kept in a drawer until her mother mentioned them at a

spiritualist lecture. Conan Doyle's sister was at the meeting and told her brother, who became almost obsessed with the supernatural after his son was killed during the First World War.

The writer sent his agent to Cottingley to examine the scene and obtain the plates. He published the pictures in *Strand* magazine and sent the girls £20 in war bonds. In 1922 he based his book, *The Coming of the Fairies*, on the photographs.

Mrs Hill said later that his intense interest put the girls off admitting it was a hoax. She said: "I felt that I could not now say they were fakes. It might have upset him dreadfully." She decided to confess in 1983 after thinking it would be unfair on her grandchildren if they discovered their grandmother had photographed fairies. "They might have been teased," she said. She also confessed to not believing in fairies. "I never have and never will."

Fairies, however, asserted until she died that the photographs were genuine.

Much of the film will be shot in Yorkshire this spring but nowhere near Cottingley. A site in upper Wharfedale has been chosen near the beauty spot of Kilmsey Craggs.

## Victorian photographer blamed for whiff of supernatural world

By JOHN YOUNG

THE "ghost" of a Victorian photographer with an apparent aversion to music is causing something of a stink at her former home on the Isle of Wight.

Volunteers restoring the house in Freshwater, where Julia Margaret Cameron lived from 1860 until her death in 1879, complain that they are assaulted by an overpowering smell every time they switch on their music player.

Leo Cox, one of the volunteers working for the trust that owns the building, said: "It's a dank, earthy smell, like a rotting body that has been buried for years."

"The stench is quite overpowering; it really knocks you back," Mr Cox is familiar with such smells, having worked in a cemetery and a

church crypt. He claims to have seen Mrs Cameron's ghost several times but, despite having two loaded cameras at the ready, has so far failed to capture it on film.

Mrs Cameron took up photography soon after her arrival in Freshwater at the age of 48. With Queen Victoria in frequent residence at nearby Osborne House after the death of Prince Albert, the village became a fashionable resort for famous writers, artists and actors.

The house was threatened with demolition to make way for a block of flats but was rescued by the trust in 1993 with support from, among others, the photographers David Bailey and Koo Stark and the actor Charlton Heston.

Among the trustees is Hugh Noyes, son of the poet Alfred Noyes, former High Sheriff of the Isle of Wight and one-time parliamentary correspondent of *The Times*. Many people claim to have

seen or heard Mrs Cameron's ghost, including the house's former owner, Julia Howard, who said that she often heard her tutu skirt rustling next to her on the stairs.

Mr Cox is not alone in complaining of the smell. Ron Smith, the trust's chairman, and Brian Balshaw, the resident warden, have also suffered and audiences at musical evenings have been forced to hold their noses.

Mr Smith said: "It's really embarrassing. We've had the drains checked and they're OK."

Mrs Cameron's ghost is apparently not simply giving vent to its feelings about late 19th-century pop music. The concerts have chiefly featured 18th and 19th-century classical composers, including Vivaldi, Haydn and Liszt.

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# Republican rivals turn their fire on 'Senator Straddle'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

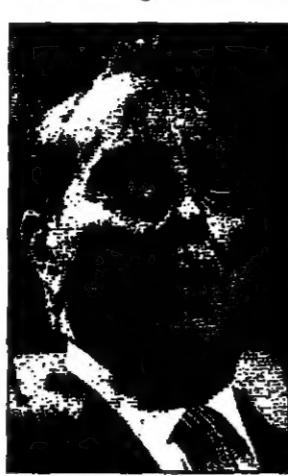
WITH just five weeks left until the Iowa caucuses, the Republican presidential candidates have rounded on Robert Dole, the clear front-runner, in a last-ditch attempt to deprive him of the party's nomination.

For months Phil Gramm, Lamar Alexander, Steve Forbes and Pat Buchanan have fought among themselves to become the Senate majority leader's main challenger, but since the new year they have turned their fire on him, because his hold on the race was seen to be fast becoming unbreakable.

In a key speech to the conservative Heritage Foundation late last week, Mr Alexander, the former Governor of Tennessee, said that the lacklustre Mr Dole would be a "sitting duck" for President Clinton in the election and would lose the Republicans not just the White House but Congress too.

Mr Dole was too old, lacked vision and had spent almost his entire career in Washington. "We must bring ourselves to say to Senator Dole, 'We appreciate your long service in the Senate but, with respect, the debate next October with Bill Clinton is not the right place for you to be,'" Mr Alexander said. "It may be Senator Dole's turn, but it is not his revolution."

Mr Gramm, the conservative Texas senator, has seized on Mr Dole's compromises in Washington's budget negotiations to resurrect the "Senator Straddle" slur that George



Dole: hold on race is becoming unbreakable

Bush used so successfully in 1988's New Hampshire primary after Mr Dole refused to sign a pledge on no new taxes. Mr Gramm is broadcasting commercials that begin "Remember Senator Straddle? He cuts deals and voters rejected him. Well, Bob Dole hasn't changed."

Mr Forbes, the publishing tycoon, may be a political novice but he is airing the most negative commercials of the lot. These are mostly directed at Mr Dole, portraying him as an incurable Washington tax-and-spender, but ironically Mr Forbes's \$10 million (£6.5 million) advertising blitz over the past three months has actually helped Mr Dole by eclipsing Mr Gramm and Mr Alexander.

Mr Dole gave his more

conservative rivals a fat target last week by breaking ranks with Newt Gingrich, the Republican House Speaker, and demanding the reopening of the federal government after a record 21-day shutdown, but a new Gallup poll yesterday suggested that was a popular move with the public.

It showed Mr Clinton's nine-point lead over Mr Dole last month had shrunk to just one point, and that he was level with Mr Clinton when respondents were asked who had handled the budget crisis best. Mr Dole "was seen as more humane, less rigid and not in Newt's pocket," said Stephen Hess, a political analyst at the Brookings Institution in Washington. The poll also showed that Mr Clinton's approval rating had slumped to 42 per cent from 51 per cent when the shutdown began on December 15.

Mr Dole sees his rivals' attacks as a perverse form of flattery. Nelson Warfield, his spokesman, said: "There's a growing sense of desperation among those in the back of the pack and sadly they seem to have decided that the only way to advance themselves is to lash out at Bob Dole ... They'll reduce themselves to a group that most people won't want to sit in a bus with."

■ Back to business After the federal worker layoffs and the emergence of a new Clinton plan, the White House and Congress will again sit down this week for talks on a seven-year balanced budget. (AP)



Elizabeth Vellis, 12, speeds down Capitol Hill on a sledge yesterday as snow continued to fall in the Washington area. The worst snowstorms to hit the American capital in decades have forced the closure of government offices and schools, and confined a million people to their homes

## Snow forces new Washington shutdown

**Tom Rhodes encounters visions resembling the aftermath of apocalypse in a car journey through the American capital. The Arctic conditions have closed government offices and businesses**

I was 6.45am, pitch dark and mine was the sole car inching along the icy highway from the Virginia suburbs into Washington when a figure flagged me down from the top of a 4ft snowdrift. I touched the brakes and the car spun around through 180 degrees.

The figure climbed in and began peeling off layers of scarves, hats and coats. "Sorry about that," said the cheery woman who finally emerged. "I'm a nurse. My car's buried and I've got to get to my hospital. They've had no relief for 48 hours. Plus, I can help you push if you get stuck."

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And so we crawled on past the occasional abandoned vehicle into a capital paralysed by its second-worst snowstorm of the century, a city like a shrouded vision after the apocalypse.

Occasional huddled figures flitted through the snow, tramps sheltered beside steaming sidewalks. Underground stations were empty but for a few stranded travellers.

Not a shop, office, school or restaurant was open. Only those like the nurse, who had to work, had ignored

the official warnings and ventured out. More than a million people in and around America's capital are stranded in their homes until fleets of snowploughs and salting lorries can begin to make inroads into the downtown.

In an irony lost on few in Washington yesterday, the continuing blizzards had also closed the seat of American government on the day President Clinton and the Congress had agreed that 250,000 federal workers should return to their jobs after more than three weeks of the budget impasse.

With 16in of snow having fallen overnight in the capital's centre, and two feet on the runways at Dulles International Airport, officials had taken a decision none had wanted to

close all government offices under the weight of the blizzard.

"It's kind of God's revenge on the craziness of Washington, I guess," said John Sturdivant, head of the American Federation of Government Employees.

Mr Clinton, who had braved the snowdrifts to attend church the previous day, cancelled his fundraising lunch only streets away from the White House but agreed to meet the Republican leadership over plans for a balanced budget.

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## Computer failures plague Denver showcase airport

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

DENVER'S huge international airport, which opened late last year, has been plagued with failures in its crucial radar and computer systems.

There were breakdowns on three out of every four days between May and October last year, the *Denver Post* has reported. Air traffic controllers' screens have gone blank, the control tower has lost track of taxiing aircraft and pilots have been given wildly inaccurate weather forecasts.

Officials insisted passengers have not been endangered — merely delayed by the use of old-fashioned back-up systems. But the report will be a severe embarrassment to the airport's backers, including Federico Pena, President Clinton's Transport Secretary.

America's first big new airport in 20 years was intended as the last word in convenience and passenger safety. It was also meant to lift Colorado into the top rank of international business centres. Instead, from the first testing of its vaunted automatic baggage handling system, it has been ridiculed.

The system was designed to do away with the armies of baggage handlers employed at most airports, replacing them with hundreds of miles of automatic conveyors. At its first public demonstration, designer bags emerged mauled and useless. The \$4.5 billion airport opened with manual baggage handling.

The construction of the air-

port brought protests from Indians, claiming sacred land had been defiled, and Denverites who objected to the extra 20-mile drive to catch a plane.

The new report, compiled from documents obtained under America's Freedom of Information Act, shows that last August there was not a single day on which all the computer systems functioned properly. Weather radar frequently reported storms when conditions were perfect and sometimes failed to spot dangerous "wind shear" conditions generated by the nearby Rocky Mountains.

The Federal Aviation Administration has acknowledged that perfecting the radar and computer systems could cost millions.

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# Branson rival first to lift off in world balloon race

**AN AMERICAN** banker is trying to beat Richard Branson to the title of first man to circumnavigate the globe in a balloon, the last remaining major aviation record.

Steve Fossett, a 51-year-old securities trader from Chicago, lifted off yesterday morning from a dry river bed in South Dakota while Mr Branson, who announced his bid for the title last summer, will not be airborne until Sunday.

Mr Branson, who sent Mr Fossett a good-luck card, said: "The race is on. We congratulate the American team for being off before us. We will lift off early next week and plan to fly higher and therefore faster and plan to overtake them. I hope Steve Fossett has a wonderful experience and safe journey."

Mr Branson's *Virgin Global Challenger* has the advantage of being fully heated and pressurised, while Mr Fossett will have to survive with a sleeping bag and an oxygen mask in his balloon. This will allow Mr Branson to fly at 30,000ft, while Mr Fossett will be at 20,000ft.

The *Virgin Global Challenger* was built by Per Lindstrand, one of Mr Branson's two team members, and will collect environmental research data on air pollution during the flight.

Mr Branson's departure was delayed by the recent cold weather in Britain, which forced the vital jet streams south. The late start means that he will now take off from Marrakesh in Morocco. Mr Branson

**Richard Branson does not take off on his attempt to circumnavigate the world until Sunday but, Oliver August reports, he believes he will still complete the trip more quickly than his opponent**

hopes to complete his trip in 18 days, while his rival believes it will take him 21 days to cover the same distance at the lower altitude.

Mr Fossett's support team in Chicago described the trader as an enthusiast and adventurer. "He is a very competitive guy," a spokesman said. "Competing in his job just isn't

enough for him. Now he is battling with your Richard Branson. But it's not deadly serious."

Mr Fossett, who made his fortune through commodities investments, is paying for the venture himself and is flying solo in an unpressurised capsule. "We're going to have a good go at it," Mr Fossett told a crowd of about



Steve Fossett gathering up his balloon after finishing his four-day record-breaking flight across the Pacific in February last year

100 people just before he lifted off at sunrise from the Strandbowl, a natural depression near Rapid City in South Dakota's Black Hills.

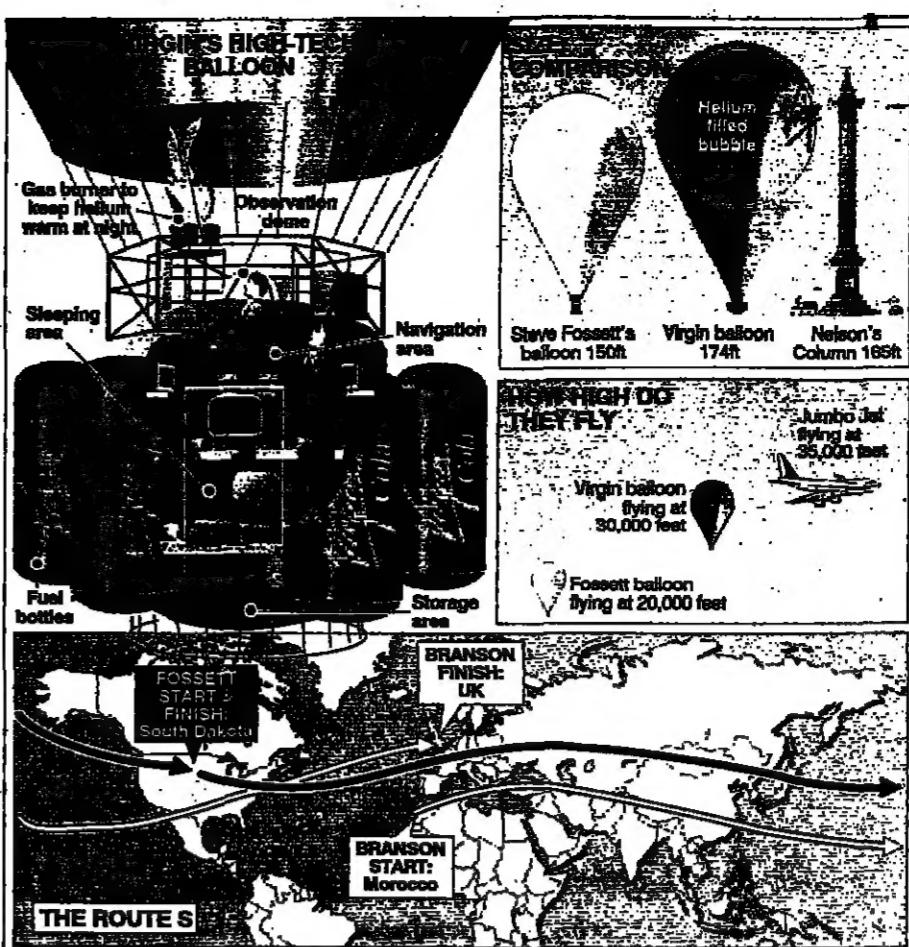
The American's previous fears include crossing the Atlantic Ocean in a balloon and swimming across the English Channel. He holds the world distance record for his balloon flight from Korea to Canada as well as the world speed sailing record across the Pacific. If the voyage goes as planned, Mr Fossett's *Solo Challenger* will be propelled by wind across the Atlantic and Europe, over Ukraine, Kazakhstan, China, Japan and finally the Pacific.

His balloon will travel at an average 35 miles an hour over land and 50 miles an hour over sea, although in previous flights Mr Fossett's balloon has been recorded at speeds of up to 180 miles an hour.

The balloon has been equipped with three global positioning systems, which will calculate his position from satellites. In case of a disaster, a satellite emergency locator beacon can be activated to guide searchers.

A team of meteorologists and long-distance ballooning experts has been in South Dakota since before Christmas preparing for the voyage.

Fully inflated, the craft holds 200,000 cu ft of helium and 60,000 cu ft of hot air. The balloon is 150ft tall and 50ft wide. Solar power, backed up by a propane generator, will provide electricity to support the systems on board.



## Battle sharpens for succession to Papandreu

By PHILIP PANGALOS

TWO clear front-runners have emerged as the successor to Andreas Papandreu, the ailing Socialist Prime Minister of Greece, who remains in a critical condition seven weeks after being admitted to the Onassis Cardiac Hospital in Athens.

Mr Papandreu, 76, is on life-support systems while his 40-year-old wife Mimi is being accused by the Greek press of blocking the succession in an attempt to further her own political ambitions.

The leadership favourites are Gerassimos Arsenis, the US-educated National Defence Minister and former Economy Minister, and Costas Simitis, the German-educated former Industry Minister and a reformist in the Socialist Party (Paskok).

Mr Arsenis, who has a growing international reputation and has been praised recently for his behind-the-scenes negotiations in the Balkans and the Middle East,



Arsenis: international reputation growing

has been gaining ground on Mr Simitis. Last summer he overshadowed Greece's Foreign Minister by persuading the Bosnian Serbs to allow the United States military to rescue unchallenged the American pilot downed over Bosnia.

The leaders of Paskok will hold a central committee meeting on January 20 and have vowed to find a solution to the country's political paralysis. However, the committee has not said how long the procedure will take and the Greek constitution allows for the head of government to be replaced only if he dies or resigns. The delay in choosing

a successor to Mr Papandreu led the conservative opposition New Democracy party to table a motion of censure yesterday against the Government.

Miltiades Evert, the party leader, said his intention was "to take the country out of its present crisis". Although Mr Evert has no chance of succeeding against Paskok's 170-strong majority in the 300-seat parliament, the motion puts pressure on the Socialists.

Mr Arsenis, 64, told *The Times* that, if he were Greece's leader, he would maintain a "steady as she goes" policy and vowed to continue with the austerity programme. The two big challenges for the nation were Greece's identity in southeastern Europe and the economic development of the country.

"A special feature of Greece as a member of the European Union is its very intimate ties with the Balkan area and the eastern Mediterranean. We have to take a number of initiatives, now that the prospects of peace in Bosnia and the Middle East have improved, that relate to the eventual development of a zone of free exchanges and markets in the Balkans and in the Middle East. Greece can become a catalyst in initiatives that will underpin this process of open markets."

Greece could promote the idea of a peripheral council of co-operation of the Balkan countries where government, private and EU finance initiatives for the infrastructure of the area, for telecommunications for new technologies and transportation could be discussed and co-ordinated.

"I see Greece as a member of the EU which could play for Europe the role of a catalyst in bringing closer to Europe the Balkan area and eastern Mediterranean. After all, the historical role of Greece all along has been to be at the crossroads between East and West, North and South."

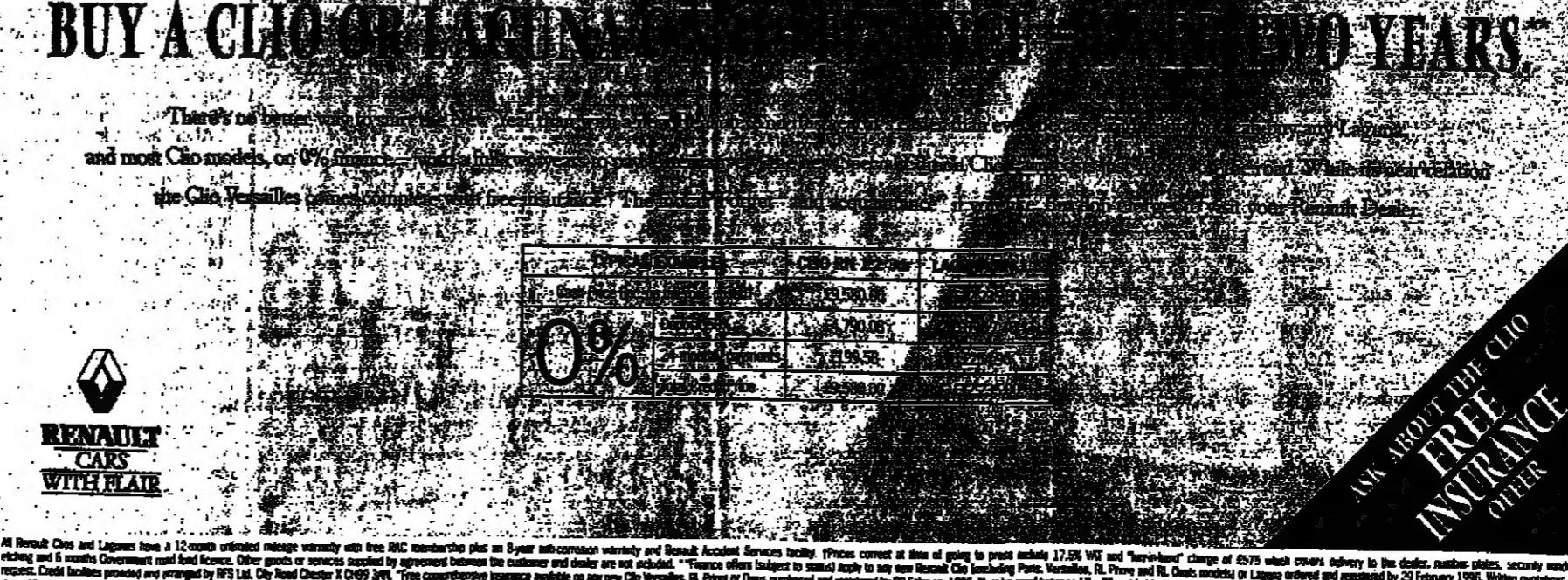
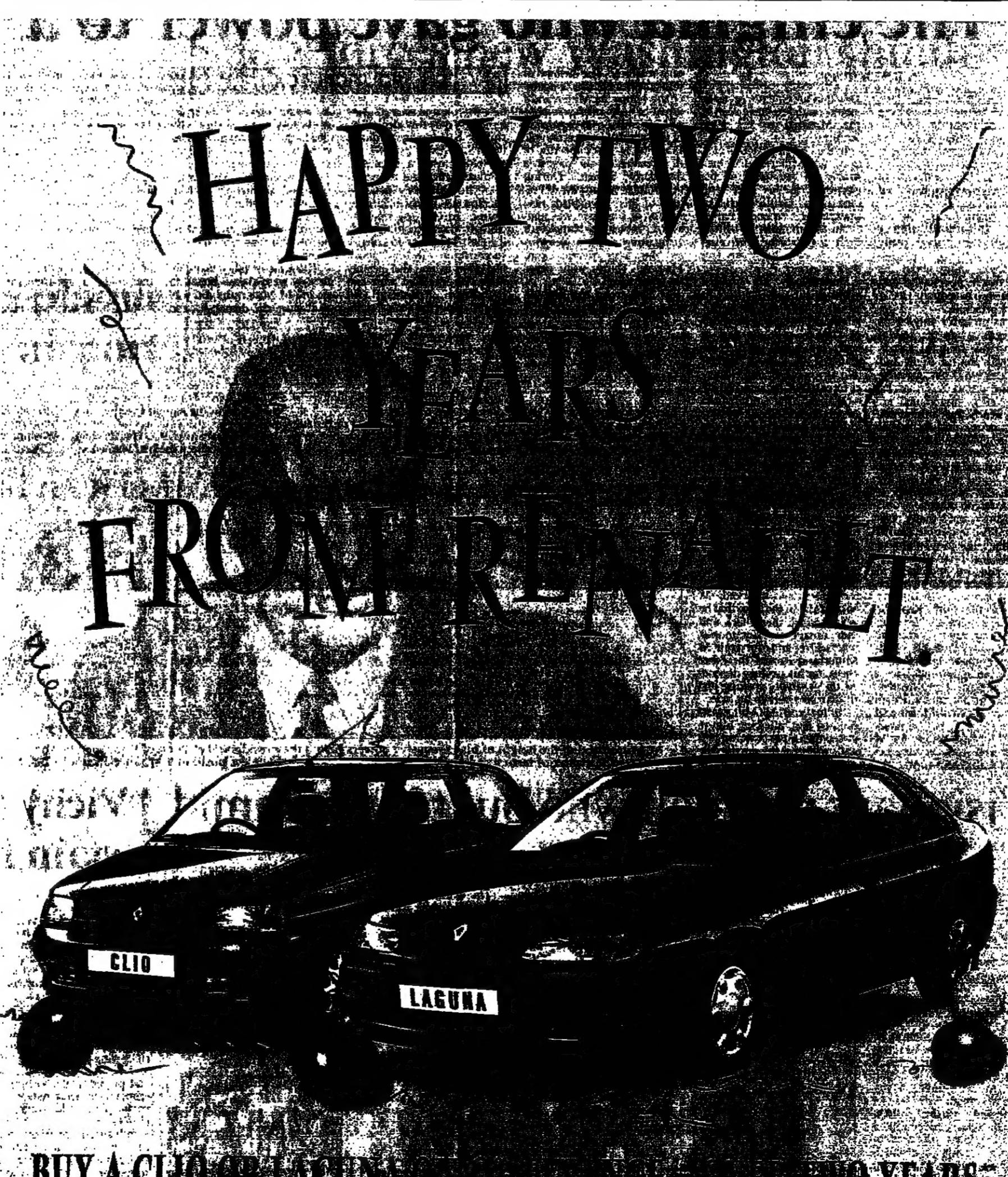
Of Turkey, Mr Arsenis said: "A Turkey which moves closer to European norms and standards is good for Turkey, is good for Europe and is good for Greece as well." The question of human rights in Turkey, however, continued to be a problem, and the stance of Turkey on the Cyprus issue was "very discouraging".

**Bonn faces court case in 'mad cow' clash**

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY may soon be in the dock of the European Court of Justice because of a dispute over curbs on British beef imports. The fear "mad cow" disease has prompted the Bundesrat, the upper house of the parliament, to call for a ban on British beef, putting Bonn at odds with European legislation.

Horst Seehofer, the Health Minister, helped to create a national scare over British beef in 1994, which led to a European compromise allowing some limits on imported cattle. The German federal states are, however, refusing to accept this compromise.



مكانت المصلحة

## Machiavellian fox who could transform himself into a man of principle



Steady steps to power: François Mitterrand as a child with his grandfather, left; as a soldier at the beginning of the Second World War; with Jean-Paul Sartre after peace was restored; as Justice Minister in 1956

## The enigma who gave power to a united Left

By R.W. JOHNSON

THROUGHOUT his long political career — he was a junior minister in 1945 — François Mitterrand remained an enigma. A man of enormous political talent, he also earned the reputation of being "too clever by half" and a political fox.

The shadow cast by the several Mitterrand affairs down the years never really lifted. It was not the least remarkable thing about his career that he nonetheless had several reincarnations as a man of principle.

It was probably only in his last years, when the revelations of his youthful association with the far Right and Vichy came to light, together with the disclosures that he had in effect maintained an entire alternative family, including a now adult illegitimate daughter, that some real hint was given of how much of Mitterrand's life had been so long and so successfully hidden. By then, however, it was too late to matter.

Mitterrand's many periods in office under the Fourth Republic made him an almost stereotypical "man of the system", but he managed to emerge as the leader of principled opposition to the institutions of the Fifth Republic (which he termed "le coup d'état permanent") and as de Gaulle's most reliable opponent from the early 1960s on.

De Gaulle himself had a high regard for Mitterrand and for many Socialists such as Guy Mollet and André Philippe, but he nourished a tireless enmity for Mitterrand from the very beginning, as if recognising the

David to his Goliath, or as he would doubtless have seen it, the Mordred to his King Arthur.

In the 1965 presidential election, Mitterrand rallied nearly 45 per cent of the electorate to his side and forced de Gaulle into an unexpected second ballot. From that moment Mitterrand was always the man most likely to lead the Left back to power.

Undoubtedly his greatest achievement was the way in which, to that end, he unflaggingly deployed a sophisticated strategy over the next 16 years, gradually uniting the scattered divisions of the Left into an overwhelming electoral force. That he achieved by rebuilding the discredited French Socialist Party (the PS) so that it finally overtook the originally far stronger Communist Party, thus altering the centre of gravity of French political life. Probably no one else could have done that.

Mitterrand's strategy required not merely great fortitude and foresight but also great patience and an ability to keep his head under very heavy fire. Time and again, as the Communists lost ground they furiously attacked Mitterrand in the hope that he would attack them back and thus antagonise Communist voters. Over and over again Mitterrand turned the other cheek, for his strategy depended on gradually coaxing just those voters over to his side.

In the end Mitterrand did just that, allowing him to sweep the Left to power in 1981 and, within it, to provide the PS with an overall parliament.

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### POLITICAL FOX

his own role and seemed quite unbothered by this ideological shift or the damage it did to the PS. Again, in 1988, he showed himself a master of political tactics and recovered from an apparently hopeless position to trounce Jacques Chirac in the presidential election, thus becoming both the first President to inhabit successfully with an Opposition majority and also the only man ever to have won two presidential elections in France under the Fifth Repub-

lic. Again, however, the fruits of victory were wasted. Indeed, the fatal damage was done immediately, in the succeeding parliamentary election, when Mitterrand deployed all manner of Machiavellian tactics in an effort to push in a number of personal friends and centrist clients and thus rebalance his coalition.

Those tactics failed dismally as they were always bound to do: all Mitterrand did was to confuse and demoralise the

PS and thus rob it of the overall majority which it could undoubtedly have won had he put his full weight behind it. The result was to produce a minority PS government which never really managed to stamp its authority on the country in the five years that followed.

Again, Mitterrand jinxed his way through with all manner of sideshows and dummies.

His favourite tactic was to lie in wait for opponents and then make an apparent sortie into their path. The opponent — M Chirac was a habitual

victim — would sally forth onto the attack, only to find that the whole move had been a feint and that they were now exposed to raking fire from a wholly unexpected direction.

After his re-election in 1988 Mitterrand maintained power with no real Left majority because of his adroitness in dividing the Right, even covertly assisting Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front to that

followed.

This Levantine cleverness was often matched by personal pettiness. Though having selected the most able Prime Minister in sight in Michel Rocard, Mitterrand had changed the Left into a force that could bid for power: that achievement remains.

Nicknamed "the Sphinx" for his inscrutability, "the Florentine" for his Machiavellian ways, and "God" in a popular television satire show. Mitterrand had the ability to inspire emotions ranging from reverence to deep irritation. George Bush, the former American President, said some world leaders would "roll their eyes" when he launched into a philosophical lecture about history.

Perhaps symbolically, his last journey was a Christmas visit to Egypt, the cradle of modern civilisation. After his first prostate operation in 1992, Mitterrand described his fight against cancer as "an honourable battle against oneself". People danced in the street in May 1981 when Mitterrand was elected the first Socialist President of France. Yesterday many were crying at the news of their hero's death.

His second presidential term was a mistake and



Mitterrand at the height of his persuasive powers before the presidential election of 1988 when he showed himself a master of tactics and recovered from an apparently hopeless position to trounce Jacques Chirac

Leading article, page 17  
Obituary, page 19

## Visionary pharaoh who built his pyramid

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN PARIS

NOWHERE is the grand historical sweep of François Mitterrand's reign more visible than in the skyline of Paris which he tirelessly, some say arrogantly, reshaped as a permanent testament to his 14 years in office.

Mitterrand spent a staggering Fr50 billion (£4 billion) on his *Grands Travaux*. In his determination to leave a bricks-and-mortar epitaph, he was following a great French tradition that stretches from Louis XIV through the Napoleons to de Gaulle. Many projects were inherited, but Mitterrand pushed them through with single-minded determination — and disdain for cost — that said much about his vision of himself

and his understanding of architecture's political power. He regarded the unfinished Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Europe's largest library, as his greatest architectural achievement. It was certainly the most expensive. Costs have exceeded Fr3

billion and in 1993 the Culture Minister toyed with aborting the project. Mitterrand's response was unequivocal: "You will never have an architectural policy if you make cuts all the time."

He completed the popular Musée d'Orsay's renovation, commissioned Jean Nouvel to come

to see the Paris of architecture, the Paris of sculpture, the Paris of museums, the Paris of gardens ... a city open to imagination, ideas and youth," he wrote.

But they would also, he ensured, see the Paris of François Mitterrand, the pharaoh who built the pyramid.

build the Arab Institute, and gave an emphasis to maintaining the city's architectural heritage.

The works prompted huge roars, but while some grumbled about design and others about cost, few challenged his right to fashion the capital as he saw fit. "Visitors will come

to see the Paris of architecture, the Paris of sculpture, the Paris of museums, the Paris of gardens ... a city open to imagination, ideas and youth," he wrote.

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NOT until the last years of François Mitterrand's life did the spectre of Vichy and his hitherto obscured role in the French collaborationist government cast a long, dark shadow over his career.

In September 1994 Pierre Péan, a journalist, revealed the extent to which Mitterrand had been involved in right-wing groups in the 1930s and the enthusiastic part he had played in the Vichy government of Marshal Pétain before joining the Resistance in 1943.

In his teens, M Péan wrote,

Mitterrand had been an enthusiastic rightwinger and supporter of the right-wing Croix de Feu movement, with several friends among the Cagoule, a prewar underground fascist movement.

After his third attempt to escape from a German PoW camp succeeded, he gained a job under the Vichy government.

Mitterrand later claimed that his work involved tracing French prisoners

of war, but as an intelligence official he also

filled out forms on Communists and other state enemies.

He was not directly involved

with the deportation of Jews

but many of his friends were,

and the precise extent of his

knowledge of the Vichy role in

Nazi atrocities has never been

fully established. He received

the Francisque, Vichy's highest

honour, from the hands of

Marshal Pétain. While his

former President told M Péan. But he later added that he would be deeply hurt if he thought the French people believed he had known the full extent of Bousquet's record.

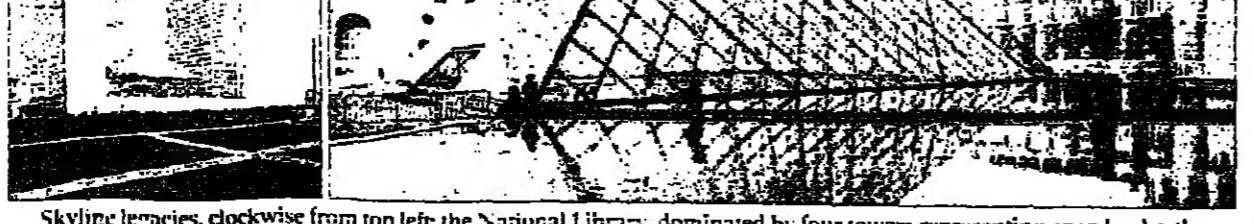
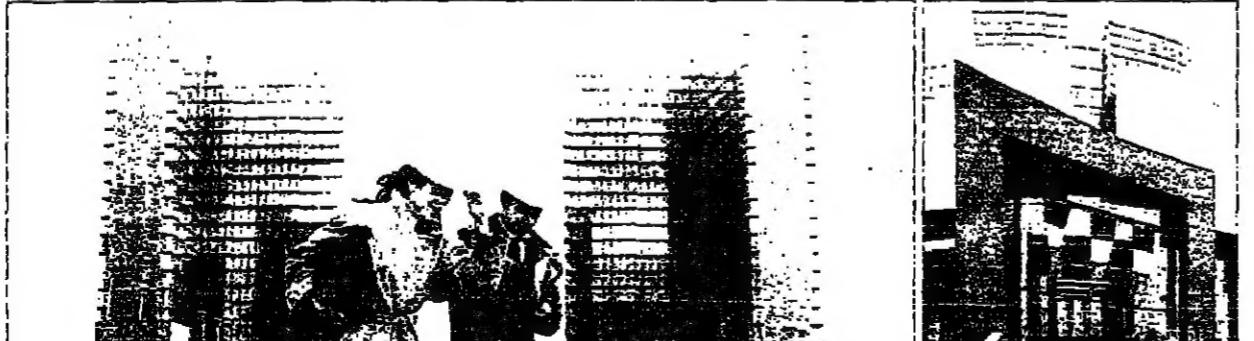
Serge Klarsfeld, the president of The Sons and Daughters of Deported French Jews, described Mitterrand's continued relationship with Bousquet as "morally condemnable". Even Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, a close friend of Mitterrand, argued that the President should have known better than to socialise for 40 years with such a blighted individual.

Mitterrand's decision to co-operate with M Péan was seen by some as an honest attempt to set the record straight as his death approached. To others, it was evidence of a guilty conscience.

It may be characteristic of the man that, although he served in the Vichy government when he changed sides in 1943 and joined the Resistance he did so wholeheartedly and served with remarkable bravery.

The row that erupted over his Vichy past may have surprised Mitterrand. He did not believe in moral absolutes and insisted life was never a question of black and white but, in his own words, "light grey and dark grey".

If that were so, Mitterrand's Vichy years were still among the darkest shades of grey.



and his understanding of architecture's political power. The glass pyramid at the Louvre was an architectural gambit of enormous chutzpah. But it has worked, and the pyramid, with its vast network of public space beneath, is one of the city's most popular buildings.

Parisians have come to appreciate, if not to love, the Grande Arche, a 30-storey rectangle of concrete designed by Otto von Spreckelsen. More than half the cost was financed by the late Robert Maxwell, who also underlined a grand gesture.

The costly Opéra Bastille has fewer admirers. Construction was accelerated to allow Mitterrand to preside over

### WARTIME ROLE

relationship with René Bousquet, the former Vichy chief of police responsible for sending thousands of French Jews to Nazi camps.

Bousquet was formally charged with crimes against humanity in 1978, but Mitterrand did not break off their relationship until 1986. Bousquet died from an assassin's bullet before his trial.

In a television interview in 1994, Mitterrand admitted intervening to prevent the prosecution of Vichy officials to avoid "reopening the old wounds". As for Bousquet, who as a newspaper executive had helped Mitterrand's early political career, "it was a pleasure to see him", the

## Family was at side of French leader for his 'serene' last moments



Presidential route: a campaign poster, left, for François Mitterrand in November 1965 offers his fellow countrymen "a young President for a modern France"; in May 1974, his wife Danielle beside him, he makes another attempt for France's highest office. Finally, ambition fulfilled, the President walks through Château Chinon after casting his vote in the first round of the parliamentary elections in March 1993

### Kohl mourns 'a good friend'

FROM RODER BOVEN  
IN BONN

**HELMUT KOHL**, the German Chancellor, yesterday sent an unusually heartfelt message of condolence to Danielle Mitterrand, declaring: "I mourn a good friend."

The German leader was speaking no less than the truth for, despite M Mitterrand's initial reservations about German unity, the late President was emotionally attached to Herr Kohl, to Germany and to a joint vision of Europe.

Herr Kohl has, in fact, been mourning M Mitterrand for more than six months. Franco-German relations under

#### GERMANY

President Chirac have skidded downhill. The Chancellor was quick to point out yesterday that something of M Mitterrand remains: "His political vision of a united Europe will give us strength and spur us on in the future."

The Franco-German consensus built by the two is crumbling, however. It is difficult to talk nowadays of a "special relationship" between Paris and Bonn since the sum of differences and individual frictions have made a nonsense of claims to be a joint European "engine".

M Mitterrand's farewell to Germany was delivered in Berlin at last year's celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Unlike John Major's more stilted speech about a new age of reason, the former French President's rather rambling reminiscences moved Herr Kohl to tears.

The French leader spoke movingly of befriending German soldiers and the slightly out-of-place speech delivered by an obviously sick and fragile man drew fierce criticism in France. In Germany, however, it was taken at face value: M Mitterrand was registering the fact that the Germans and the French were connected by split blood.

FROM ADAM SAGE  
IN PARIS

**IN LIFE**, François Mitterrand rarely failed to compare himself with the founder of the Fifth Republic, Charles de Gaulle. In death, the comparison remains striking.

Long before he died on November 9, 1970, de Gaulle told the man who was to become his successor, Georges Pompidou, that he wanted the simplest of funerals. "The men and the women of France and other countries can, if they so wish, pay homage to my memory by accompanying my body to its last resting place," de Gaulle wrote. "But it is in silence that I wish it to be carried out."

## How a 'good death' was ensured The loyal wife who coped with affair

FROM KATE MUIR IN PARIS

**FRANÇOIS MITTERRAND** was not just preoccupied with dying; he wanted to die well.

Soon after he discovered his prostate cancer was incurable, he took steps to prepare himself. He started to see his death not as a moment to fear, but as the final resounding line in a singular life.

Thus, it is not surprising that his close friends said M Mitterrand was "very serene" in the final moments of his life yesterday morning. He died in his Paris apartment, attended by his personal doctor, his wife Danielle and two sons nearby.

M Mitterrand had been more aware than most of his own mortality, once saying: "Death can transform a human being into what he was called to forget that."

But in the past two years, he began to read and think a great deal about the subject. He consulted Marie de Hennezel, a psychologist. They met during an official tour of her hospice. Through letters, dinner conversations and retreats to her country home, their friendship developed, as did the com-

plexities of their debate about life and death.

M Mitterrand wrote the foreword

last year to Mme de Hennezel's bestseller, *La Mort Intime*. "How to die?" asked the former President. "We live in a world which is frightened by such a question: a world which avoids even asking it."

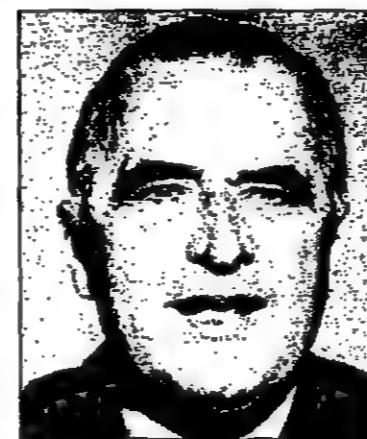
Over dinner, he once told Mme de Hennezel: "We are each on a plane journey which will end one day by crashing into a mountain. Most people

forget that."

"Myself, I think about it every day, but perhaps that is because I have begun to catch a glimpse of the mountain through the plane window."

By talking publicly about his illness, M Mitterrand hoped to take death out of the closet, and pledged to help to end the modern "deficient" relationship with death in this hurried existence."

Unlike one of his predecessors at the Elysée Palace, Georges Pompidou, who allowed rumours about his illness to bloat and was said to have died of cancer, M Mitterrand was absolutely honest with his country



Pompidou was said to have flu on the day he died of cancer

about his health. Mme de Hennezel said that, although M Mitterrand was basically an agnostic, her conversations with him often took a mystical turn, and he did not believe that precluded having religious feelings or a curiously about an afterlife.

The psychologist also said that he had more time to think after leaving

the presidency. "As people face death, they need to be true to themselves, to drop masks, to stick to the essentials."

M Mitterrand had dropped a number of masks in his last few years, cooperating with a biographer who revealed his role in the Vichy regime, and being photographed publicly with his 20-year-old illegitimate daughter, Mazarine.

Last year the Mitterrands purchased a grave site on Mont Beauvray near Château Chinon in central France, where M Mitterrand was once mayor. The site is also where France's hero Vercingetorix rallied the Gauls against the Romans. It met some criticism as a grandiose choice.

Mme Mitterrand wanted them to be buried together at Mont Beauvray, but clearly her husband's wishes have prevailed. He has insisted on being buried in his family tomb at Jarnac, near Cognac in western France, in a quiet family funeral with no political oration — similar to the request made by General de Gaulle.

As for an epitaph, M Mitterrand once suggested his should be the same as Willy Brandt, the former German Chancellor: "I did what I could."

BY KATE MUIR

**DANIELLE MITTERRAND** has been fighting her own battle against serious illness. "I ought to have died a year ago," she told *Paris Match* magazine recently, citing her heart problems, temporarily solved by a mechanical valve and a pacemaker.

In the past few months, M Mitterrand has two widows. The other is his long-time mistress, Anne Pingeot, mother of his illegitimate daughter Mazarine. The relationship was revealed in 1994 in the French press, along with pictures of M Mitterrand and his student daughter leaving a restaurant and walking together.

It was also revealed that Mazarine and her mother — a curator at Musée d'Orsay — had been provided with accommodation and security protection. Mme Mitterrand, when asked about the affair, said simply: "We coped."

## Chirac's predecessor left legacy of domestic woes

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

**JACQUES CHIRAC** was quick to pay tribute to his predecessor yesterday. But the death of François Mitterrand could hardly have come at a worse time for the Gaullist President as he struggles to reassert his authority amid a host of problems, many bequeathed by the Mitterrand years.

The Government's efforts to

overhaul the indebted welfare

likely to be shelved as newspapers and television screens are given over to remembering Tonton, or Uncle, as the former President was known.

In Gaullist circles, however,

the reminiscences are likely to be muted by the belief that M Mitterrand left behind a time-bomb in the shape of a bloated public debt.

Any hope M Chirac might have had of using the end of the strikes and the start of a new year to revitalise his presidency has been scuppered by the timing of M Mitterrand's death.

After M Chirac's election, relations between the two were cool. But apart from attacking the President's decision to resume nuclear testing, M Mitterrand avoided overt criticism of his successor.

When Jacques Attali, one of M Mitterrand's top aides, quoted his former boss as saying of M Chirac "he may get elected after me, but he would soon be the laughing stock of the world", the former President diplomatically declined saying anything further.

M Chirac was elected by promising to end old-style politics, mend France's "social fractures", reduce taxes and cut employment. Instead, faced with the contradictions and impossibilities of implementing the full range of pledges in post-Mitterrand France, M Chirac has opted for deficit reduction. Taxes and unemployment are up and M Chirac's popularity remains at rock bottom.

Despite M Mitterrand's

1983 conversion to fiscal orthodoxy and a promise in 1981 to

reduce unemployment, the jobless rate almost doubled, while the national debt trebled and France became more wedded to the lavish and indebted social security system.

But it is the Maastricht

timetable for monetary union,

requiring drastic debt reduction,

that may be M Mitterrand's most problematic legacy to his successor. M Mitterrand set France rattling along the road to monetary union without tackling the burgeoning problem of state overspending. M Chirac has now declared deficit reduction

system and rail network prompted the worst strikes in France for a decade. These ended just before Christmas, but at a huge cost to the French economy.

This week M Chirac announced that he would visit the French provinces in a bid to recapture some of the enthusiasm that brought him to power. But with M Mitterrand's death, these plans are

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Any hope M Chirac might have had of using the end of the strikes and the start of a new year to revitalise his presidency has been scupper

## Day 2 of our series on ageing: Problems men face in middle age...

■ What's the truth about men growing older? Below, Dr Thomas Stuttaford explodes the myth of the "three-times-a-night" men and explains how to restore sexual vigour, and Alan Coren comes clean about the more unnerving aspects of ageing  
 ■ Opposite, we look at the importance of nutrition, and offer a guide to foods that can keep you in the peak of condition



TOMORROW

- Use it or lose it — how the brain ages, and making the most of your memory, by psychologist Ian Robertson
- Why a low fat diet is not the best way to beat cholesterol, by Nigel Hawkes
- Dr Thomas Stuttaford explains why older women may enjoy an enhanced sex drive



A young man will be as willing for sex as his partner is, but male desire and ability diminish with age: medical science is working on a solution

## How I became 'differently young'

**I**t seems like only last year in Marienbad, but it is in fact 30 years. It is 1965, and I am driving to Marienbad from Carlsbad, in a bright red Austin-Healey 3000, and the hood is down because the sun is hot. But the sun is about to go in, and when it does, two things will happen, which, though they are similar to one another, are also so different from one

another that they will constitute a watershed in my life. The two things are that the rain will begin to fall, and that the rain will begin to land.

When the first happened, I didn't put the hood up, because I was only a mile or two from Marienbad and didn't want to stop, and I was

young and didn't mind a few drops of rain. Until the second thing happened. When the second thing happened, I realised I was no longer young. Because, hitherto, the rain had always fallen on my hair, but that day, it did not fall on my hair, it fell on my scalp. Clearly, my hair had done

some falling of its own, but I had never been aware of it before. I had never felt the pain on my skin. I was 27, and it was borne in upon me, for the first time, that I was ageing. For the rest of my life, raindrops would be falling on my head.

Now let us deconstruct that anecdote, so that we may elicit a little more about the ageing process. The two film references were to *Last Year in Marienbad* and *The Sundance Kid*.

You will all have seen the latter, but apart from film nerds, only those of my age will have seen the former. It was very big, then. But were I to adduce it in conversation with the unaged, they would not know what I was talking about.

**T**hat is one of the most unnerving aspects of ageing: those younger than you who are, of course, increasing moment by moment, while those older than you are decreasing at about the same rate understand less and less of what you are saying — especially if your conversation is like mine, freely peppered with other men's flowers, for the very good reason that, as Wodehouse observed, "If it were not for quotations, conversation between gentlemen would consist of an endless succession of峡尔特尔 fever, or The Grove Family, or slide-rules, or Dickie Valentine, or HMS Amethyst, or Monk & Glass custard, or Austin-Healeys."

For those flowers age too: withered by time, they grow less and less recognisable to more and more people, and this is true not merely of literary gobble, but of all references to ideas, people, buildings, plays, cars, food, music, what you will: among all the unsettling aspects of age, few are more unsettling than, in the course of what you feel to be an interesting chat with some young person, noticing their eyes suddenly glaze over at your mention of Herter, Morrison, or UDL of峡尔特尔 fever, or The Grove Family, or slide-rules, or Dickie Valentine, or HMS Amethyst, or Monk & Glass custard, or Austin-Healeys.

I do not drive a two-seater now. I wish I could boast that I have outgrown them, but that would not be the truth. The truth is that I have outgrown them. Ageing is about being irritable partly because the corking new MGF has come



Alan Coren when he had more hair on his head and chin

on the market and is clearly not for you, but mainly because the motoring press cackles its head off upon discovering that the median age of those who have put their names down for them is 57.

I see I used "nerd" a bit back. Is it still current? Or am I however it a nerd now? for using it? For the horrible obverse to using old words the young do not understand is using what you think are new words so that the young will understand, only to discover, as their eyes glaze over again, that it has become an old new word, and makes you appear even older than if you had ever been a really old word in the first place.

Especially if you have used it in the course of expressing an opinion. It is extremely unlikely, if you wish neither to feel nor to appear old, to express any opinion at all to

anyone younger than you are. You may believe that your judgments are the fruits of experience and wisdom, but the young will believe that they are the fruits of being nearly dead.

They find this funny.

**S**ince 1978, that it is a mistake to decriminalise consenting crackpots who wish to batter one another senseless with live eels in the privacy of their own love-nests? Might there not be just an outside chance that these actually are the purblind views of a reactionary old prat?

Are all these signifiers more significant than hair falling about?

They are to me. I care

about metrication. Saying you

do not understand decimal innovations is ageing, but taking the mickey out of them is bullish. Sorry, taking the piss out of them: nearly gave the game away there.

As for physical activities involving others, the maturing athlete must exercise extreme care not to exercise with extreme care. There is, for example, a crucial moment in his tennis career when a player has to choose between continuing to play as he has always played, ie, with all the energy he can muster, and opting instead for precision, cunning, and gamesmanship. The latter is a big mistake not only is hurling yourself about the court and going for every shot healthier both for body and for amour-propre, it is the best excuse there is for losing to those younger than you.

You can say you are having an off-day, probably because of a heavy night, nudge-wink-chuckle. At the very worst, your opponent will conclude that you must have been a terrific player, once; he will not know that you have never hit a successful running cross-court backhand in your entire life. If, however, you just amble up and down the baseline waiting to embarrass him with a cissy lob, he will conclude only that you are a clapped-out fart who was probably never any good anyway.

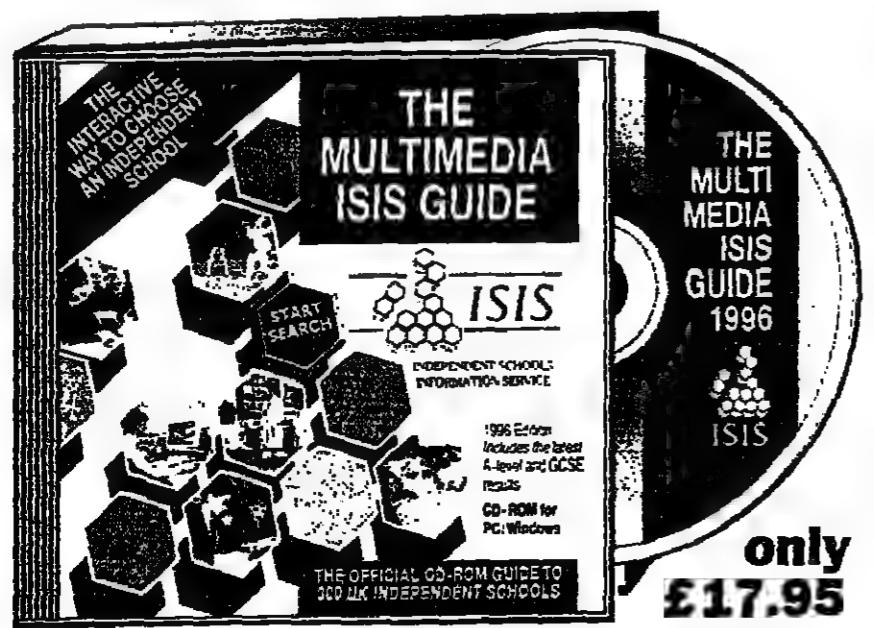
**S**ex! I sense you want me to talk about sex. I do not intend to do this on my own behalf, but if the differently young among you are looking for a tip, exactly the same tactics apply as to tennis.

Let us therefore put our clothes back on. How do we look? Not too bad, with any luck, provided we have had the good sense not to reach for a Michelob baseball cap, or a Junior Gaultier waistcoat, or a Perfecto zippered leather blouson, or Fila trainers, or anything else you have to ring up your kids about to find out what the in-your-face young are wearing, or were ten minutes ago when in your face was still an au courant fashion statement, but have slipped instead into a well-made three-piece whistle. Ageless, that. Even young tongues hang out, these days, for a Savile Row suit.

Or so they tell me. They may, of course, just be trying to humour an old man. It's hard to tell, if you're not one.

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**ARTS 31-33**

Peter Flannery's political epic finally gets to TV

**LAW 35-37**

Speaking out: David Penny-Davey, QC, Bar chairman

**SPORT 39-44**

Lynagh signs three-year deal with Saracens

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Small business 30

# THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY JANUARY 9 1996

## Consumer spending surge 'could trigger 8% base rates'

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A SURGE in consumer spending during the second half of this year could trigger base rates as high as 8 per cent in 1997, the latest year in which the Government must hold an election according to the Ernst & Young ITEM Club.

In a new forecast using the Treasury's economic model, the ITEM Club says that tax cuts and cash windfalls from building society sales, maturing Tessa savings accounts, and the National Grid rebate for electricity customers could cause consumer spending to grow at an annualised rate of 3.5 per cent during the second half. That

would delight retailers and rescue the economy from its present slowdown. But a consumer spending boom could quickly rekindle inflation, the forecasters say. Wage growth would accelerate to unsustainable levels. "This would demand much higher interest rates, possibly as high as 8 per cent, in order to arrest the inflation threat this would pose."

Overall, the ITEM forecasters predict economic growth of 2.5 per cent this year, down from an expected 2.8 per cent in 1995 and 3.9 per cent in 1994. Consumer spending growth, however, is expected to rise from a mere 1.8 per cent in 1995 to 2.5 per cent in 1996.

The predictions, from one of Britain's

most respected forecasting groups, are tempered by a warning that declining demand in Britain's main export markets, combined with weakness in the domestic economy, could lead to a second doomsday scenario for the Government.

Manufacturers have already embarked on an extensive round of destocking, the forecasters note. "By cutting employment and investment, UK companies could lead to growth as weak as 1.5 per cent this year. Under this alternative scenario, unemployment would begin rising towards 2.5 million by mid 1997."

ITEM's central forecast, however, is broadly optimistic on the prospects for inflation. Made cautious by continued

feelings of insecurity, consumers are expected to increase their savings during the first half. "Such a favourable outlook for inflation will pave the way for further interest rate cuts during the first half of 1996, which could take base rates to 5.75 per cent by the end of spring."

But because of the looming election, ministerial forecasts of a 1 per cent fall in government spending are unlikely to be fulfilled, the ITEM economists believe. "Much depends upon the likelihood of the Government adhering to its 1995 Budget expenditure plans," the forecasters say. "Under ITEM assumptions, public spending is expected to overshoot the 1995 Budget plans by 1.5 per cent in real terms, by rising 0.5 per cent." That

would leave government finances in trouble by the time of the November Budget. Ministers might have to choose between further spending cuts or tax increases. "Should the next Budget fall before the general election, this would provide an enormous political obstacle for the present Government," the economists say.

Paul Droop, chief economist of the ITEM Club, said firms should note the impending shift in growth mix. Exporters would experience more modest demand from European markets, while those oriented to the domestic economy would gain from strengthening consumer spending.

Growth easing, page 24

### Court blow for life firms

## Investors win right to sue for mis-selling

By ROBERT MILLER

PENSION companies face an additional compensation bill for mis-selling personal pensions running into tens of millions of pounds after a judge yesterday gave nurses and public sector workers the green light to sue through the courts.

The ruling is expected to push the personal pension industry's estimated costs and compensation bill to well over £4 billion.

Judge Raymond Jack, QC, sitting at the Bristol Mercantile Court, dismissed applications for a stay of proceedings brought by five of the UK's largest life offices and ordered the Prudential, Hill Samuel, TSB, GAN Life and Irish Life to pay the costs of the case.

The five pension companies, which were also refused leave

to appeal, warned cases of alleged personal pensions mis-selling to be handled by the special review system set up by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, and not by the courts.

Ringrose Wharton, the law firm acting for members of the Royal College of Nursing and the GMB general union, which has issued 50 writs claiming compensation ranging from £5,000 to over £100,000, argued that many investors did not want to be bound by the SIB review's timetable.

Bill Day, pensions officer at the GMB, welcomed yesterday's landmark court ruling. He said that the potential compensation bill for just 50 writs issued on behalf of GMB members could top £1 million and hundreds more cases are in the pipeline. He added: "The Government, which was so active in promoting personal pensions in the late 1980s, should now spend as much money as they did then on telling hundreds of thousands of possibly confused investors about their rights to take legal action if they want to."

The Government should also insist that the regulators force pension companies to offer investors the right to free independent advice to ensure that any compensation settlement they are offered is fair." Richard Bernhard, director of legal services at the Royal College of Nursing, said: "The judgment seems to have confirmed our view that independent advice should be offered to our members where it is found that they have been let down by bad advice and that the costs of putting that situation right, including the advice, should be paid for by the pension provider.

"We want our members restored to the NHS Pension Scheme, which is a very, very good one. It offers members inflation-proofed pensions with employer contributions, life cover and is linked to final salaries and based on the number of years worked."

The Prudential, Britain's largest insurer, and the TSB, now part of the Lloyds Bank group, said that they were "disappointed" at the court ruling and would consider the judgment in some detail before deciding whether to seek leave to take the judge's ruling to the Court of Appeal.

The Prudential said: "Our concern remains that, if a large number of investors decide to issue proceedings against pension providers, then those pension providers' resources, which should be directed towards carrying out the SIB review, will have to be diverted to deal with the litigation. Accordingly we shall keep this aspect under review in case the scale of litigation exceeds that contemplated by the judge."

Philip Ryley of Ringrose Wharton said: "In our view life companies are inviting court actions if they continue to refuse to settle reasonable costs of an independent investigation in each case. It is the investor who may have been badly advised by a life company and it is the investor who should be totally satisfied that his or her pension arrangements have been fully redressed."

City watchdogs said that the court ruling should not affect the SIB's personal pension mis-selling review.

### Price cutting lifts shop sales

By PATRICIA TEHAN

FURTHER evidence of a pick up in confidence on the high street comes today with figures showing higher sales — but sales achieved at the cost of widespread price cutting.

The British Retail Consortium's retail sales monitor for December shows an annual increase in like-for-like value of retail sales of 4.3 per cent. This compares with a 3.2 per cent annual increase in November and a 2.4 per cent rise in October.

The figures also show an increase in the underlying growth trend, with average sales growth of 3.3 per cent in the past three months compared with 3 per cent in the period from September to November.

The food and drink sector performed well and sales of personal computers were also strong last month.

Retailers reported successful post-Christmas sales after a mixed start because of weather problems. The furniture and carpets sector suffered most from the lack of movement in housing and the do-it-yourself sector was flat.

Andrew Higginson, chairman of the consortium's economic affairs committee, said: "We now need to see this improvement maintained into the new year and for any recovery to be seen more widely across the retail sectors." Credit growth cases, page 24

## Granada 'must raise bid 15%

By ERIC REGULY

GRANADA will have to raise its offer for Forte today by about 15 per cent, to between 375p and 380p a share, to give it a fair chance to overcome Forte's strong defence package. City analysts said.

But some analysts did not expect Granada to go that high and thought it would offer as little as 360p and argue that it could do a better job of managing Forte's broad collection of hotels and restaurants.

There is even a slim possibility that Granada will effectively abandon the chase by leaving its bid unchanged.

Granada gave no hints about what board decisions were made yesterday. The revised offer will be announced early today.

Goldman Sachs, the US investment firm, expects Granada to raise its offer to between 360p and 375p, while Strauss Turnbull Securities expects 375p. Kleinwort Benson last

week estimated Forte's break-up value at 380p, which suggests Granada will have to pitch its offer at a price higher than that if it hopes to tip the balance in its favour.

Most analysts said that Granada would have to increase the cash component of its bid. Its shares and cash bid was valued at 328p when the offer was launched in November. The all-cash alternative is worth 321.7p. Granada shares, which went ex-dividend yesterday, fell 4p to 643p, while Forte lost 1p to 344p.

Separately, Forte issued a writ against Henry Staunton, Granada's finance director, over remarks attributed to him in yesterday's edition of *The Times*. He was quoted as saying that Forte's defence document "was designed to mislead". Forte demanded an apology and "substantial" damages. Granada refused an apology.

After Mr Lang's approval, City attention may again focus on other US utilities with declared interests in UK electricity businesses. Houston Industries, which had teamed up with Central and South West for an abortive move on Norweb, is known to be still interested.

### Seeboard takeover is cleared

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

THE takeover of Seeboard, the southeast electricity company, by Central and South West Corporation, the US utility, has been cleared by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade.

Mr Lang, who last year surprised the City with the referral of bids from National Power and PowerGen, the generators, for regional electricity companies, passed the £1.6 billion agreed bid after the electricity regulator and the Director-General of Fair Trading said they had no objections.

After Mr Lang's approval, City attention may again focus on other US utilities with declared interests in UK electricity businesses.

Houston Industries, which had teamed up with Central and South West for an abortive move on Norweb, is known to be still interested.

## Exchange rushes out reform plan

By PATRICIA TEHAN

THE Stock Exchange will open the debate on how to reform the way that shares are traded with a consultative paper on Friday.

The City's leading investment banks have made it clear to the Exchange that a system of choices over trading methods would be unworkable.

In the document the Exchange will outline alternatives for share trading and give market participants several weeks to submit responses.

The document was planned for next week but, after the furor over the sacking of Michael Lawrence as chief executive, it is being rushed out this week.

The consultation paper is the result of a decision taken at an Exchange board meeting in November to move towards a system of full electronic trading and order matching.

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Clara Freeman hopes her promotion will be an encouragement to other women

### Freeman joins M&S board

By SARAH BAGNALL

MARKS & SPENCER, Britain's leading retailer, has appointed its first woman to the board as an executive director. Clara Freeman, 43, joins the 17-strong executive board and is responsible for personnel.

Mrs Freeman, who has been head of personnel for the past year, will be M&S's youngest executive director. She joined the company as a graduate trainee after reading history at Somerville, Oxford.

During her 21 years with the retailer, Mrs Freeman has worked in a variety of areas, including buying. M&S has more than 60,000 employees and about 75 per cent of its customers are women.

Recent statistics showed that women make up nearly half the UK workforce but only 3 per cent were directors. Women tend to appear in areas such as personnel and marketing, rather than research and development and production.

Mrs Freeman said she was honoured by the elevation, which she hoped would encourage other women. "I hope that I got the job because I'm the best person for it, not because I'm a woman," she said.

Her husband is a co-founder of Argent Group, a property company that floated in 1994, and they have two young children.

### BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FTSE 100	3720.6 (+16.1)
Yield	3.86%
FTSE All Share	1821.21 (+8.82)
Nikkei 225	2053.59 (-1.45)
New York	1261.30 (+19.87)*
Dow Jones	6174.43 (+10.72)*
S&P Composite	510.45 (+0.25)

US RATE	
Federal Funds	5.00% (5.10%)
Long Bond	11.00% (11.10%)
Yield	6.04% (6.05%)

LONDON MONEY	
3-month Interbank	8.14% (8.15%)
Life long gilt future (Mar)	11.04% (11.05%)
5-year	11.04% (11.05%)
10-year	11.04% (11.05%)
20-year	11.04% (11.05%)

STERLING	

Mortgage lending shows signs of revival in housing market

## Consumer credit growth eases

By PATRICIA TEHAN  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

GROWTH in consumer credit weakened in November, rising by a net £613 million, compared with £830 million in October, according to official figures.

The figures are not expected to have any implications for interest rates, as they show how consumers are financing their spending, and not how much they are spending.

The rise was below City

forecasts for an increase of between £650 million and £700 million. Andrew Milligan, economist at New Japan Securities, said that it should be seen in the context of the surge in October.

He said the longer-term trend "remains intact" in the six months to November. The average rise was about £600 million, compared with an increase of £600 million in the previous six-month period.

Mr Milligan said that credit growth was running at about 1

per cent a month, or between 13 and 14 per cent a year.

Jonathan Lovnes, economist at HSBC Greenwell, said: "The figures tell us little about the strength of consumer activity, only how they are choosing to finance it," and added that there were certainly no implications for interest rates.

Adam Cole, economist at James Capel, said mortgage lending figures were more encouraging. Net mortgage lending was £1.23 billion. In

per cent higher than October's figure. He said that although mortgage borrowing "is still below levels recorded at this time last year, shorter-term measures leave little doubt that the trend in borrowing is now upwards."

Adrian Coles, director-general of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, said that there were now more tangible reasons for recovery to strengthen than there had been for five years. He said: "Continued reductions in unemployment,

the effect of tax cuts and low mortgage interest rates are beginning to lead to some tentative renewal of confidence."

The level of mortgage approvals was £4.84 billion, down on October's £4.88 billion. Excluding the October figure, the CML said, "approvals were higher in November than they had been since November 1994".

Michael Saunders, economist at Salomon Brothers, said that the half-point cut

mortgage rates would come through in the coming months.

Net gilt sales were £245 million November, compared with £3.8 billion in October, because of the lack of a gilt auction in November.

Final M4 data for November showed the broad money measure up an adjusted 1 per cent, up 9.3 per cent on the year, with sterling lending at £2.6 billion.

Mo growth was unrevised at 0.7 per cent in November.

## Holiday war forecast on surge at Inspirations

By MARIANNE CURPHAY

ANALYSTS predicted a bitter battle among tour operators for the number three position in the UK holiday market this summer after Inspirations, a relative newcomer, surprised the City with better than expected year-end results.

Despite echoing the general industry complaint that last summer had been the toughest for 25 years, Inspirations unveiled pre-tax profit up 71 per cent to £7.7 million for the year to September 30.

Last month, Airtours, the UK's second-largest tour operator,

revealed a 22 per cent fall in profits while First Choice, the third-largest, reported annual profits fell from £16.3 million to £1.3 million.

While Inspirations said it hoped to end this summer with a market share of 3.2 per cent compared with 2.1 per cent last year, analysts suggested it was underplaying its success and that its market share for 1995 had been closer to 5 per cent, since it carried 477,000 passengers out of a total of about 10 million.

Inspirations, run by Vic Falah, has a retail agreement with AT Mays, the travel agent, owns Goldcrest, the aviation broker, and Caledonian Airways and runs two package holiday brands — Inspirations and Style. Its shares rose 11p to 119p.

Jim Harris, chairman, said the company had not been hit as hard as its rivals because tour operating accounted for a smaller percentage of overall business. He said 1996 forward bookings were down 8 per cent against 26 per cent in the rest of the industry.

Turnover rose 70 per cent, to £356 million, and earnings per share were 18.36p (12.04p). There is a final dividend of 2.8p, making a total of 3.5p net, a 25 per cent rise on the previous year.

■ Airtours is poised to buy Simon Spies Holdings, which has a 40 per cent share of the Danish holiday market, according to City sources.



TREATT, the essential oils and aromatic chemicals company, yesterday reported pre-tax profits of £3.5 million (£2 million) in the year to September 30 and said orders were at record levels. The company, whose managing director

is Hugo Bovill, above, is lifting the total dividend to 5.6p (4.6p), payable April 12, with a 3.8p final. Treatt is to seek a full listing for its shares after the closure of the Unlisted Securities Market. Shares fell 16p, to 32.5p.

## Shake-out at Nynex to cost 310 jobs

By ERIC REEVES

NYNEX CABLECOMMS, the second largest cable company, said a restructuring aimed at reducing costs will result in 310 redundancies equivalent to about 11 per cent of its staff.

Nynex denied that lower than expected sales are behind the redundancies which, when completed next month, will save £6 million to £7 million a year in overhead expenses. It said a Coopers & Lybrand study determined that its costs were higher than some of its main competitors, such as TeleWest, and should come down.

Nynex will be cut from virtually every department, including sales, customer service, public relations and management. About half of the losses will be involuntary. A restructuring charge of less than £1 million will be taken because most of the employees have been with the four-year-old company for a short time only.

Nynex will replace its regional, door-to-door sales force with a national, telephone-based sales organisation in an attempt to boost sales. Its cable-television and cable-telephone penetration rates, at 18.9 per cent and 23.8 per cent respectively, are below the national average.

Nynex, 67 per cent owned by Nynex Corporation of New York, a regional phone company, was floated last year at 137p. The shares fell 14p to 105p yesterday, setting a new 52-week low.

Share prices of the floated cable companies have all been disappointing because penetration rates have been lower than expected.

Pennington, page 25

## McBride shares fall on profit warning

MCBRIDE, the detergents maker, lost a fifth of its stock market valuation yesterday after a profit warning sent its shares down 37p to a low of 149p. The company was floated in July, at 188p, and the shares reached a high of 215p in September. Yesterday's fall in the share price wiped nearly £65 million off the company's market value, leaving it at £259 million.

McBride blamed reduced margins and higher than expected production costs for the interim profits warning. The company said first-half sales were at record levels, but the growth failed to feed through as increased profits because of a squeeze on margins. The company had expected a recovery in margins in the first quarter which failed to materialise as a result of a later than expected slowdown in raw material price increases. McBride was not able to recover the increased costs by lifting prices. The company also suffered up to £4.5 million of abnormal production costs and loss of margins because of the launch of products.

Pennington, page 25

## Xyratex sells division

XYRATEX, the UK computer products and services company that was formerly part of IBM, has sold its flexible interconnect division to ADflex Solutions of America for \$36 million. It was announced yesterday. The division employs 180 people, including 50 engineers, and had revenues of about \$72 million in 1995. Its customers include IBM, Seagate, Quantum and Hewlett-Packard. The division was set up in 1985 and began producing chip-on-flex (COF) assemblies for IBM hard-disk drives three years later. It now has about 40 per cent of the world market for wire-bond COF assemblies.

## Limit stays ahead

LONDON Insurance Market Investment Trust (Limit), a corporate name at Lloyd's of London, yesterday confirmed its position as the largest single investor in the insurance market, with 6.5 per cent of the total underwriting capacity for 1996. Corporate capital companies together with the traditional individual names are providing £10.8 billion worth of capacity to the market this year. Limit said that it had lifted its total underwriting capacity nearly 7 per cent, to £635 million, while Hiscox Select Insurance received a 4 per cent advance, to £18.8 million.

Tempus page 26

## Freshfields tops table

FRESHFIELDS has ousted Slaughter and May from the top of the league table of lawyers working for financial advisers or companies on UK public takeovers, according to *Acquisitions Monthly*. In 1995, Freshfields acted on 31 deals worth £32.2 billion, against 30 mandates totalling £29.7 billion for Slaughter and May, which had topped the table in each of the two previous years. Freshfields had a joint role on behalf of TSB Group, taken over by Lloyds Bank, and was sole adviser to Southern Electric, which received a £2.8 billion advance, to £18.8 million.

Staff will be cut from virtually every department, including sales, customer service, public relations and management. About half of the losses will be involuntary. A restructuring charge of less than £1 million will be taken because most of the employees have been with the four-year-old company for a short time only.

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Share prices of the floated cable companies have all been disappointing because penetration rates have been lower than expected.

Pennington, page 25

## Barr hit by move costs

AG BARR, the maker of soft drinks including Iron-Bru, Tizer and Orangeade, blamed a 31 per cent drop in full-year profits to £4.6 million on a combination of the cost of centralising its Scottish production facilities together with higher raw material costs. The fall in pre-tax profits from £6.7 million to £4.6 million in the year to October 28 was principally due to the £1.4 million exceptional charges relating to the move to a single production site at Cumbernauld. The final dividend rises to 6.2p (5.8p) making a total of 8.2p (7.8p). The dividend, due April 8, is being paid from earnings of 15.3p a share (23.8p).

Kvaerner wins contract

KVAERNER, the engineering group that owns the Govan shipyard and whose takeover bid for Armac, the construction company, failed last year, has won an offshore contract worth 1.2 billion Norwegian crowns (£120 million) from Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company. The contract is for the Gulftak satellite development in the North Sea. Work includes modifications to the Gulftak A platform to tie in its three satellite fields as well as producing and installing new platform modules weighing up to 2,000 tonnes. The huge Gulftak field pumped nearly 470,000 barrels a day in November.

## Sunleigh loss continues

SUNLEIGH, the consumer products company, has given warning that it will again incur a loss in the year to December 31, 1995, after the wide-ranging reorganisation of its Maclearen subsidiary, which makes prams and pushchairs. One-off charges will include provisions against the write-down of assets, including unoccupied property for which no prospective buyers have emerged. Directors expect Maclearen to return to profit in 1996. Despite the poor results, the company said it remained within its banking facilities. In 1994, Sunleigh incurred pre-tax losses of £646,000.

## Oil quotas exceeded

CRUDE oil production by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) bounced back in December to 25.49 million barrels per day (bpd). This was up 220,000 bpd from 25.27 million bpd in November, in excess of the official 24.52 million bpd ceiling, a Reuter survey showed yesterday. Calls at Opec's November talks aimed at curtailing individual quota-busting by some members appear to have gone unheeded. Venezuela remained Opec's biggest transgressor, with a steady 2.73 million bpd. 370,000 bpd over quota. Iran and Nigeria also registered higher volumes.

## Courtaulds sale

COURTAULDS, the British chemicals company, has sold its cellulose packaging film business, Courtaulds Films Celophane, to UCB, of Belgium, for an undisclosed sum. The business is based in Bridgwater, Somerset, and employs 490 people. It has a capacity of 20,000 tonnes and a net asset value of £11 million. In the year to March 31, 1995, it had sales of £90 million. After the acquisition, UCB's turnover in packaging films will rise to £180 million.

## Minister urges better environmental standards

## Greener vision for black stuff

THE Government yesterday pressed the coal industry for tougher environmental standards while offering little reassurance about future protection.

Richard Page, Minister for Energy and Small Business, indicated that coal would be left to its own devices after the expiry of present supply deals to the generators amid full competition in power supply, which will bring more gas-fired energy on stream. He signalled heavy demands on the coal industry for a better environmental performance.

Mr Page told the Coal Industry Society: "Bigger than the competition

## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### NOTICE OF CIVIL ACTION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Plaintiff v. ROBERT

DEFENDANT

Case No. 95-cv-1000

Plaintiff, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sues defendant, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for damages in the amount of \$100,000.00, plus interest and costs, for personal injuries sustained by plaintiff as a result of defendant's negligent conduct.

Plaintiff, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sues defendant, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for damages in the amount of \$100,000.00, plus interest and costs, for personal injuries sustained by plaintiff as a result of defendant's negligent conduct.

Plaintiff, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sues defendant, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for damages in the amount of \$100,000.00, plus interest and costs, for personal injuries sustained by plaintiff as a result of defendant's negligent conduct.

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Plaintiff, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sues defendant, a citizen of the

LeBride shares fall  
n profit warning

Yates sells division

unit stars ahead

testfields top table

last but in move on

share price up

Juniper loss control

Oil quotes exceed

Courtauld's sale

for black stu

□ Actuaries weigh up disclosure choices □ A silly row over alcoholic fizz □ Nynex dials a wrong number

□ FOR years, finance directors have been fooling investors by publishing financial data in so raw and esoteric a form that the accounts might as well have been printed in *Minoan Linear B* for all they contributed to open corporate governance.

Company balance sheets will probably have to continue in their current form for a while, alas. But the accountants have been working to produce a more transparent view of just what directors receive in the way of pension entitlements, to be taken into the Stock Exchange's listing requirements in due course.

At present, that chunk of the accounts dealing with what are archaically called directors' emoluments is clear enough on salary, often rather less clear on share options and clear as mud on pensions.

Under the Greenbury code, it would have to be quite transparent on the first two. The argument has been over the third, because there are any number of ways of expressing mathematically the value of any pension, only some of which are comprehensible to the lay or even the professional investor.

The Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries yesterday produced a consultation

document setting out a range of five possible methods of calculation and a tendency towards one. This is likely to be a preference shared by most institutional investors and abhorred by fat-cat directors.

Such actuarial arguments are not normally a matter for rioting in the streets. But pension calculations do make up a substantial portion of those huge payoffs and pay increases that we will hopefully be seeing less of in future. Cedric Brown's salary increase last year brought him a £1 million boost to his individual pension, as duly set out in the British Gas accounts.

The actuaries tend towards a so-called transfer value method, which would show the actual amount the director's rights to benefits had risen by over the past year. This is transparent enough, and it has the added virtue of being entirely objective, understandable by all and providing an easy basis for comparison between companies.

It does, however, throw up an

awful lot of fat cats, because salary increases towards the end of a director's career provide an enormous upwards tickler on the value of those rights. Directors naturally prefer a smoothed approach, whereby that increase is phased in over each of the remaining years of their careers.

Tough. Investors are entitled to the clearest exposition possible of what they pay their employees, the directors. It is up to the latter to explain any mitigating circumstances to their shareholders' satisfaction.

### Entering into the spirit

□ ONE could understand the fuss, if they were bottling it as Lucozade. But the largely artificial future over alcoholic lemonade and its ilk has more to do with a drinks industry closing ranks against outsiders than any legitimate health concerns.

First, last night's *Panorama*. It

dealt only tangentially with the subject of not-so-soft soft drinks and the young, but was more concerned to give us another Awful Warning about how much we all drink.

Second, the forthcoming Portman Group swipe at alcoholic lemonade. The Portman Group reckons to be the conscience of the drinks industry, and deeply troubled it is in this case. Of the seven largest drinks producers that make up the group, three are involved in alcoholic soft drinks and four are not, yet. The group is divided on the issue — odd, that. The favoured option is dropping the

term "alcoholic lemonade" in exchange for something less confusing to the young.

It is hard to imagine just what you see is what you get — lemonade with alcohol in it. If the bottles are confusing the tiny tots in their wanderings around the kitchen, however, that is a matter for the parents. The average teenager is perfectly aware of alcohol and its function — if alcoholic lemonade is being used as a foothold into the adult world of real drinking, then it is merely supplanting the traditional role of cider.

What we have here is a classic case of "Wish I'd thought of that — now let's try to stop it". Drinks groups have spent millions developing bland concoctions aimed squarely at young people. The last serious stab was the range of madly competing ciders that did for that particular market. Alcoholic lemonade was first introduced to Britain by a tiny Australian drinks outfit, and only Bass so far here has

managed to get much more than a foot on the bandwagon.

Two things are certain: this year will see a lot more not-so-soft drinks running the gamut of fruit flavours from the big producers, and the craze will shortly thereafter die the death.

### Blurred vision

□ THE claim that job losses at Nynex are to do with high costs rather than low demand looks like a distinction without a difference. Nynex's costs are too high, because of an alarming shortfall between the confidence shown at the time of last year's flotation and the experience on the nation's doorsteps.

That experience was shared by the rest of the cable TV sector. The larger TeleWest announced a similar cost-cutting exercise at its key London South franchise in November. In cable, as in any other industry, low demand means costs have to fall. In the

US, for various historical reasons, take-up of homes where cable is offered has always run at about 65 per cent. The availability of good terrestrial channels and satellite meant those levels could never be reached in the UK, while the coming of digital TV will offer customers yet another option.

On notation, *Nynex and the rest* talked in terms of a 40 per cent take-up, an expectation then lowered to 30 per cent. The actual figure is running at 20 per cent, with Nynex at the bottom of the pack. What has saved the cable operators has been higher demand for telephone services, and the defection of 50,000 customers a month from BT. This is not guaranteed to continue for ever.

### Margin of error

□ FEW expect this to be a record year for new issues, and McBride, one of a rash of venture capital cash-ins in 1995, has just shown why. When the company floated in July, much was made of the resilience of margins in own-label goods, in spite of market scepticism. Much has been heard since of falling margins, culminating in yesterday's warning and another 20 per cent off the share price.

## Lockheed boosts defence role with \$9.1bn Loral deal

By ROSS THIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE rapid consolidation of the United States defence industry took a leap forward when Lockheed Martin, the industry leader, announced the \$9.1 billion purchase of Loral's defence business, whose activities include the manufacture of Patriot anti-missile missiles.

At the same time, Lockheed will invest \$344 million to acquire a stake in Loral's other main businesses, which will be packaged in a new company, Loral Space and Communications.

The deals, which require regulatory approvals in the United States and Europe, will add to pressure for consolidation of Europe's fragmented defence industry. Although market forces have already led to a wide restructuring of Britain's arms industry, incompatible government policies have largely frustrated industrialists' ambitions to deepen cross-border collaboration in a drive to match the

economics of scale enjoyed by their American rivals.

Lockheed Martin became the world's biggest defence company last year after the merger of Lockheed and Martin Marietta.

Adding Loral's activities will lift annual sales to \$30 billion.

The combined business will have an order backlog of \$47 billion.

The deals will unite two of the most successful companies in the defence electronics industry, offering skills ranging from systems integration to command, control and communications.

Loral's shareholders will receive \$38 a share in cash, plus shares in the newly formed Loral Space and Communications Corporation. That company will own 31 per cent of the Nasdaq-quoted Globalstar and 33 per cent of Space Systems/Loral, a satellite manufacturer with annual sales of \$1 billion.

In effect, Loral will be reduced to a satellite and communications business, with \$700 million of cash to develop those interests.

British Aerospace in the El5 billion competition to upgrade the RAF's Nimrod reconnaissance planes, while Lockheed is bidding its P3 Orion for the contract.

The merger comes hard on the heels of the announcement last week that Northrop Grumman, a diversified defence group formed by merger in 1994, is to acquire the Westinghouse defence businesses, focused on electronic systems, for \$3.6 billion.

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### Trinity wins orders in Far East

By PHILIP PANGALOS

TRINITY Holdings, maker of Dennis fire engines, Dart buses and refuse lorries, has won a host of Far East orders worth more than £30 million.

Joint contracts have been secured by Dennis Specialist Vehicles and Duple (Metsec) to supply three Hong Kong operators with double-deck buses worth £20 million.

Metsec has also won orders for a further 200 bus body kits to SBS, Singapore's leading operator. Other orders include fire-fighting vehicles for Hong Kong, refuse vehicles for Macau and airport tugs for China.

Steve Burton, chief executive, said: "We are continuing to make significant inroads into overseas markets and these orders demonstrate the group's competitiveness in areas which are also targets for European, Japanese and US manufacturers."

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Steve Burton has escalated sales to the Far East

Tempus, page 26

market the shares rose 10p, to 289p.

Allen Lloyd, chairman, said: "It is satisfactory to have achieved good growth in the second quarter, off-setting a relatively slow start to the year, and resulting in the first-half sales figures showing a positive advance."

The biggest growth in underlying sales was at Holland & Barrett, the group's healthcare chain.

Lloyds said the chain lifted like-for-like sales 10.3 per cent in the second quarter of the year, compared with 3.4 per cent in the first quarter. Sales at Holland & Barrett in the first quarter were affected by

the hot weather, but the benefits of increased marketing and advertising spend began to pay off in the second quarter.

After a like-for-like sales

### Redland issues warning

SHARES in Redland, the building materials company, dropped 7p to 389p after it warned of a small drop in profits from last year's £38.5 million (Alasdair Murray writes).

Redland blamed weak markets in Europe and the UK for disappointing sales.

UK sales for aggregates fell by between 7 and 13 per cent, and brick volumes declined by 14 per cent and concrete roof tiles by 10 per cent.

Redland maintained higher prices in most UK operations. The usual year-end shutdown of brick production was extended to cut stock.

In the important German market, a decline in housing started reduced sales of concrete roof tiles by 10 per cent, but margins remained firm.

Redland also announced buying Colony Materials, a US aggregates company, for \$11 million. Redland's full-year results will be released at the end of March.

Tempus, page 26

### Ellis expands overseas

ANOTHER independent US chemicals distributor yesterday went into the hands of Ellis & Everard, the Bradford distributor that has steadily been expanding its overseas operations (Christine Buckley writes).

Ellis bought George Mann for £4.1 million in a deal that also meant the assumption of £4 million in debt. The UK group, which has been refocusing its activities over the past two years, also bought Surphos Chemicals from

Albright & Wilson for £1.4 million. It is funding the moves with a placing of 4.18 million shares, which should raise £9.6 million. The acquisitions were announced on the back of half-year results that topped expectations.

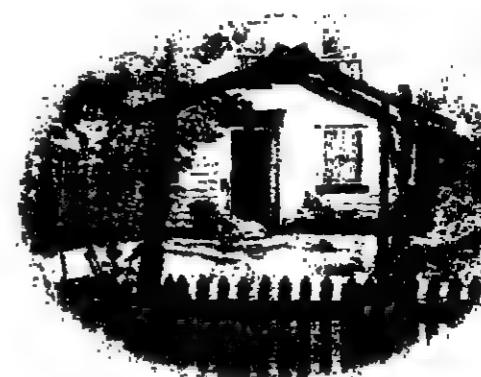
Pre-tax profits at Ellis were 24 per cent ahead of the same period last year, at £13 million, on sales that were up 20 per cent to £293 million. The interim dividend, payable on March 8, rises 11 per cent to 3p.

Tempus, page 26

### WORLD BUSINESS CLASSES

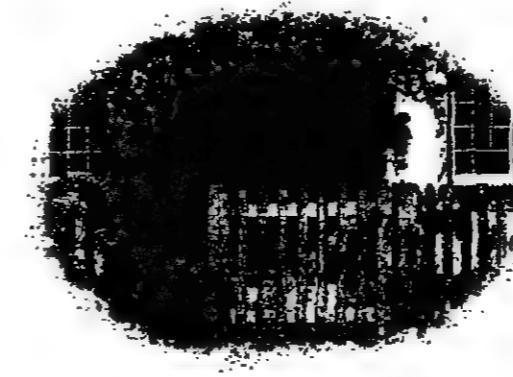


Palace Cinema, Manchester

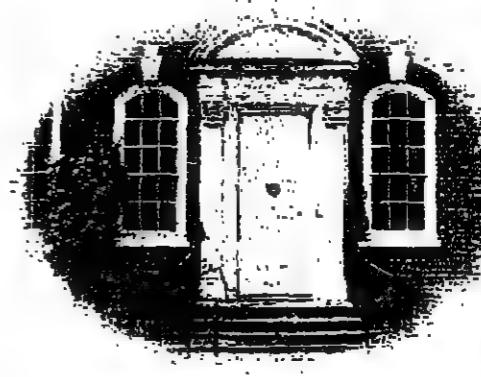


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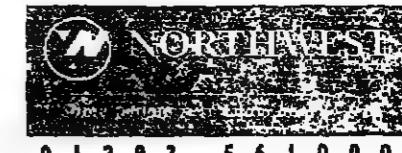


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### Tonic for Lloyd's Chemists

By SARAH BAGNALL

LLOYD'S CHEMISTS, Britain's second biggest pharmacy chain, yesterday reported a healthy advance in sales over the Christmas period, helped by improved fortunes from each of its core operations.

After a slow start to the year, the retailer saw sales rise by 2.4 per cent in the second quarter, a period covering the three months to December 31. The advance was achieved in spite of a string of drugstore closures. Overall sales for the first half rose 2.1 per cent, to £562 million.

The City was pleased with the figures and in the stock

market the shares rose 10p, to 289p.

Allen Lloyd, chairman, said: "It is satisfactory to have achieved good growth in the second quarter, off-setting a relatively slow start to the year, and resulting in the first-half sales figures showing a positive advance."

The biggest growth in underlying sales was at Holland & Barrett, the group's healthcare chain.

Lloyds said the chain lifted like-for-like sales 10.3 per cent in the second quarter of the year, compared with 3.4 per cent in the first quarter. Sales at Holland & Barrett in the first quarter were affected by

the hot weather, but the benefits of increased marketing and advertising spend began to pay off in the second quarter.

After a like-for-like sales

لهم اسْتَغْفِرُكَ

## STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

# French make Allders a candidate for takeover

**ALLDERS**, the department store and duty-free retailer, found itself a takeover candidate as it emerged that LVMH, the French luxury goods group, had snapped up a 2 per cent stake.

The shares responded to the news with a leap of 14p at 184p, after earlier in the morning going ex its 4.6p dividend. Allders declined to comment last night, but brokers say the move could be the prelude to a full bid. By the close of business, more than 1.5 million Allders shares had traded in a market where dealers will normally only make a price in 10,000 shares at a time.

LVMH, which includes luxury names like Moët and Chandon and Christian Dior, confirmed the purchase of the stake after announcing a number of board changes. LVMH continues to hang onto a 30 per cent cross-holding in Guinness.

The rest of the equity market made a confident start to the week. At one stage it came within a whisker of its all-time high, touching 3,722.8. But the delayed start to trading on Wall Street because of the adverse weather conditions saw London lose some momentum. In final trading, the FT-SE 100 index finished 16.1 up at 3,720.6, with 575 million shares changing hands.

Fortune shaded up to 344p as it waited to see if Granada would increase its £3.2 billion offer ahead of the expiry of today's deadline. The Granada board met yesterday to decide whether to top the current offer of 328p a share. City speculators are hoping that Granada will raise the offer between 340p and 360p a share after a spirited defence by Britain's biggest hotelier. Granada finished 3p easier at 643p with the market worried that an increased offer will put its finances under further pressure.

Lloyds Chemist responded to a favourable trading statement with a rise of 10p to 289p. The group said it had enjoyed sales growth in all its core businesses. On Thursday, it is the turn of Boots, up 14p to 509p, with the market looking for positive news on trading during the busy Christmas period. Stobart, unchanged at 332p, and Next, 4p better at 450p, are also expected to be upbeat about recent trading when they issue trading statements this week. Seaboard hardened 5p to 532p



Sir Neil Shaw, chairman of Tate & Lyle, which fell 10p

after the Government gave the go-ahead for the £1.6 billion bid by Central and South West C&S received the necessary approval after giving the Government certain assurances. C&S already owns almost 80 per cent of the shares.

J Sainsbury moved quickly to dismiss claims it is on the verge of issuing a profits

benefited from the blizzards sweeping the US which should result in higher fuel consumption. Shell rose 11.2p to 87.8p, BP 10p to 54.9p and Enterprise Oil 10p to 39.4p. But the best gain was seen in Burnham, up 34p at 962p. Brokers say several market-makers were cleared out of stock on Friday and are now scrambling to cover ext-

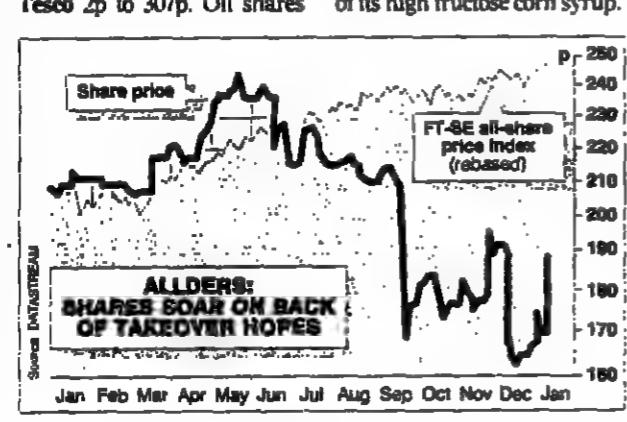
ended investors have decided that not only is a dog man's best friend, but it may also make him a profit. Pet City, the pet supermarket group, which joined AIM just before Christmas at 30p a share has leapt again. It closed last night up 27p at 437p. The group plans to expand its 35 stores to more than 300 over eight years.

warning. Instead the group is expected to make an announcement tomorrow which may be positive. A report by Verdict, the retail consultant, said that despite fierce competition, the big supermarket chains continued to achieve better returns than many of their foreign rivals. Argyll, which owns Safeway, rose 6p to 342p, Asda 1p to 112.1p, and Tesco 2p to 307p. Oil shares

posed positions. Tate & Lyle was a depressed market, falling 10p to 46p after Credit Lyonnais Laing cut its profit forecast for the current year from £331 million to £308 million. Despite the downgrading, Laing remains bullish of Tate.

However, other brokers are more cautious. The group has begun re-negotiating the price of its high fructose corn syrup.

Source: Datastream  
**ALLDERS:**  
SHARES SOAR ON BACK OF TAKEOVER HOPES



Source: Datastream

Brokers say the process still has some way to go but say it could hurt profits.

News of a profits shortfall left Redland, the building products group, nursing a fall of 7p at 78p and also had a knock-on effect on other companies in the sector. The group gave warning that there would be a small shortfall in profits during 1995 compared with the previous year. Brokers had been expecting a rise in pre-tax profits of about £5 million to £57.8 million and have already begun adjusting their forecasts. The news left RMG Group 4p lower at 952p, and Blue Circle Industries 8p at 399p.

Newcomer McBride

plunged 36p to 149p after giving warning that first-half profits would be hit by higher than expected production costs and narrower margins. The group, which came to market at 188p in July last year, said record sales growth had been offset by launch costs of up to £4.5 million and squeezed margins. A profits warning left Sunlife, the leisure group, 4p easier at 24p. The group says that profits in 1995 have declined significantly compared with the previous year. The group blames the cost of restructuring and says that margins have come under increased pressure.

Lorbo climbed 8p to 192.5p ahead of full-year figures on Thursday expected to include details of the proposed demerger of its mining interests. Brokers are forecasting a rise in pre-tax profits from £112 million to about £147 million.

**GILT-EDGED:** Sentiment remained subdued with prices trading in narrow limits for much of the day. The situation was not helped by the snow storms in the US which delayed the start of trading on Wall Street.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt closed just a tick better at £108.4 with just 24,000 contracts completed. In the cash market, falls were recorded at the shorter end where Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £1.16 easier at £104.12, while, at the longer end, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 firmed three ticks to £101.29.

**NEW YORK:** Industrials were strong at midday, lifted by gains in Boeing and energy shares and a move into cyclical issues. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 19.87 at 5,201.30.

## MAJOR INDICES

	New York (midday)
New Jones	520.30 (+0.02)
S&P Composite	617.43 (-0.72)
Tokyo:	
NIKKEI Average	20861.58 (-105.45)
Hong Kong:	
Hong Kong	10466.67 (+0.28)
Amsterdam:	
EBO Index	503.61 (+0.04)
Sydney:	
ASX	2274.9 (+14.2)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2323.48 (+1.40)
Singapore:	
Straits	2385.87 (+20.38)
Brussels:	
General	6544.40 (+44.05)
Paris:	
CAC-40	1916.50 (-1.16)
Zurich:	
SEA Gen	744.93 (+5.30)
London:	
FT 100	2750.5 (+13.3)
FT 100	3720.6 (+16.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	4000.1 (+4.8)
FT-SE Small 100	1080.41 (+2.51)
FT A-All Share	1821.71 (+0.82)
FT Non Financials	1924.92 (+0.07)
FT Fixed Interest	114.28 (+0.04)
FT Govt Securities	95.23 (-0.10)
FT Short Term	95.23 (-0.10)
FT 500	575.4m
FT 500 (Datastream)	1488.30 (+0.92)
USS	1.5495 (-0.0035)
German Mark	2.3334 (+0.0023)
Exchange Index	83.4 (-0.1)
Flight Index of English oilseed rape	1.1952
ESCI	1.0483
ESDR	1.0483
RPI	149.8 Nov (3.1%) Jan 1997=100
RPX	149.8 Nov (2.9%) Jan 1997=100

	London:
FT 100	2750.5 (+13.3)
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FT-SE Mid 250	4000.1 (+4.8)
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Source: Datastream

## RECENT ISSUES

	Cash Con util	27	+ 2
Century Inns	117	116	-1
Com de Part Fin	510	510	0
Fox Insurance	113	113	0
Ermen Products	53	53	0
Dinakar	75	75	0
Finsbury Tech (100)	106	106	0
Geashouse Gp (200)	300	300	0
Jupiter Split Cap	17	17	0
Jupiter Split Units	19	19	0
Marx & O'Neal	23	23	0
National Grid (200)	198	198	0
Northern Petroleum	75	75	0
Nutri Peulin	8	8	0
Polypharm Pharmas	142	142	0
Revelation Ptic	100	100	0
Rushmore Wynne	37	37	0
Unicorn Ind (133)	143	143	+ 3
Victrex	260	260	0
Viewton	135	135	0

## RIGHTS ISSUES

	Ramsons n/p (48)	5	+	2
SWP Group n/p (23)	1	1	+	0
Suzilife Spk n/p (25)	3	3	+	0
Westbury n/p (150)	21	21	+	0

Source: Datastream

## MAJOR CHANGES

	RISSES:
Fenchurch Group	157p (+15p)
Life Sciences	106p (+10p)
Ramco Energy	427p (+30p)
Micro Focus	588p (+35p)
Wes	2230p (+13p)
Stoves	285p (+13p)
Edie & Everard	267p (+12p)
Church	335p (+17p)
Time Products	271p (+10p)
Loyds Chem	286p (+10p)
TT Group	259p (+10p)

FALLS:

	McBride	148p (-37p)
Shield Diag	135p (-17p)	
Acorn Comp	212p (-26p)	
Frost Group	173p (-19p)	
Whitman	394p (-13p)	
Treat	385p (-40p)	
Hardy Hanson	315p (-12p)	

Source: Datastream

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 20	3740				

TEMPS  
eak house

THE  
TIMES  
  
CITY  
DIARY

Curling stays  
on his bike

PROMOTION to the top at Osborne Clarke, the law firm, where employees are expected to have "a distinctive personal style", has done nothing to change the travelling habits of Chris Curling. He's been with the firm since 1978, and has just been made senior partner in Bristol.

The post, you would imagine, brings with it a car and a parking space. Curling, a keen cyclist, has been pedalling seven miles to and from work for several years and has no intention of changing his mode of transport. But he has bagged the parking bay for his bike.

Women aboard

MIKE GOLDING, who beat Chay Blyth's solo circumnavigation record by more than 100 days in 1994, has changed his ways and his crew for the BT Global Challenge. Four years ago, in the British Steel race, he had the only all-male crew. Now, he has welcomed three women aboard. However, only two can be named: Amanda Tristram and Alex Sizer. The third, a communications manager with a City firm, hid behind fellow crew members during the photocall, saying: "I haven't told my boss yet that I will be taking nine months off work."

Spared the axe

SOME luck of sorts is coming the way of Smith New Court staff, whose firm was absorbed into Merrill Lynch last year. It's that time of the year when Merrill examines costs, and out of a worldwide workforce of 44,000, possibly up to 250 will be tapped on the shoulder. In Britain, the firm employs 3,000, of which 24 could go. However, I am assured, none of the troops at former SNC is on the list.



Trading first

ING Barings has become the first overseas broker to open on the floor of the Johannesburg stock exchange without "paying" for the privilege. Trading commenced yesterday, marking the next stage in the local development of the firm, which opened a research office in Johannesburg in October, 1994. Greg Mackay, London-based head of dealing for South African products, is in South Africa to oversee the latest push, supporting Simon Hollis, local head of operations.

ANTHONY BROOKE, a managing director at SBC Warburg, is joining BZW next month as a senior banker in its merchant banking division, with responsibility for UK corporate coverage.

Howe on form

THE importer of Louis Roederer Champagne is staggered by the accuracy of Nigel Howe in predicting the year-end FTSE 100 index. It promised a jero-boom of 1989 Roederer Cristal for the closest prediction. In July, Howe, 38, from Peel Hunt the broker, opted for 3,689.2, one-tenth of a point lower than the actual close. Tonight, he picks up his prize, equivalent to four normal bottles. A jero-boom recently fetched £800 at auction. His prediction for the end of this year is 3,720.

COLIN CAMPBELL

The Internet  
needs a safe  
way to barter,  
reports  
Alasdair Murray

The business potential for the Internet is beyond doubt. It offers a future of ultra-quick, efficient and, above all, global business. But to date the greatest commercial use seems to have been as a glorified advertising forum for corporations desperate to gain youthful credence.

Until a safe, convenient and recognised form of electronic money arrives, it remains a huge global marketplace without a means of barter. The real net revolutionaries are not the prophets of the information superhighway, whose science-fiction visions of the future have coloured coverage to date, but the small band of companies working on Internet payment systems. If they are successful the repercussions will go far beyond giving office workers the opportunity to order pizzas online.

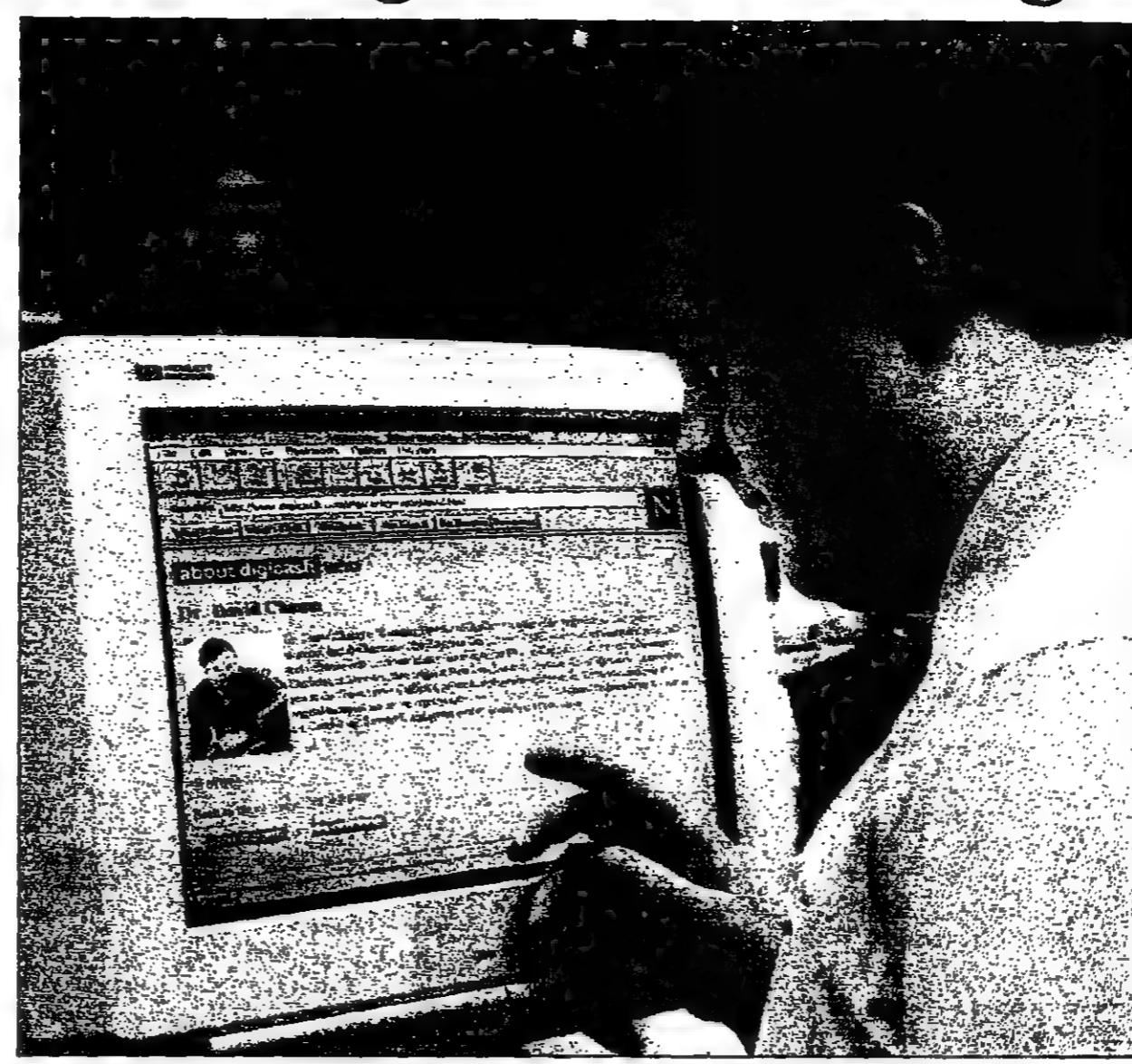
Analysts estimate there will be a potential Internet market worth £400 billion by the end of the decade. Electronic money offers the perfect means of exchange, providing instant settlement, easy storage and saving on bank fees. It will also open the door to anyone seeking to place money in tax havens, enabling floods of currency to circulate around the globe, far from the reach of the state.

As Ray Hammond, who is writing a book on the subject entitled *Digital Money*, to be published by Hodder and Stoughton in the spring, says: "Electronic money will be a major threat to national economic sovereignty. Its growth will diminish the role of the state and encourage the rise of new money providers — economic corporations."

As yet, there is no clear indication which of the electronic money schemes is going to be a winner. But choices made now will have a profound effect on what kind of system evolves. The big guns, Microsoft, Visa and Mastercard, have only recently entered the fray. They are working on protocols for encrypted credit card payments to ensure a hacker will not be able to pick up your credit card number online and take it on an instant shopping spree. The original concept was for Visa and Mastercard to work together to establish a single system, but Visa has teamed up with Microsoft and Mastercard with Netscape to launch competing systems.

Credit card systems will give Internet commerce a boost, providing mail order companies with a novel outlet for their wares, but ultimately they can only be part of the solution. Much net commerce is likely to revolve around small payments for data, whether it is paying pennies to read an online database or taking part in an interactive game.

What is needed is an Internet payment system that more closely resembles cash and this is where the small dedicated companies, with names such as Cybercash and DigiCash, come in. Cybercash has developed a system that goes one step beyond the credit card. The user deposits money



Net prophet: Dr David Chaum, DigiCash founder, appearing on the Internet to explain the eCash system

with a bank affiliated to the scheme — there are currently ten participating institutions

— and then downloads an electronic purse to spend in Internet shops. After a purchase is made, the shopkeeper contacts the customer's bank, the electronic money provides the necessary information, and converts the digital money back into real cash.

Cybercash's system most closely resembles a switch card and the company itself cautiously refers to it as an electronic method of messaging.

Magdalena Yefil, a co-founder of Cybercash, believes the attraction is that it keeps a tight control on real funds. The money is in the bank account so there is no question of where the money is.

Cybercash also offers real benefits for global transactions. Money can be deposited in any denomination, even though, so far, the participating banks are only in the US. Paying in Cybercash will cut out expensive currency conversion for both customers and businesses.

DigiCash, founded by David Chaum, the guru of cryptography, is far more ambitious in the development of its electronic money scheme, eCash. It dispenses with the need for an escrow account, working more like an ATM (automated teller machine). An account is set up, the amount of eCash is requested and the amount downloaded to your personal computer. When asked to pay, you confirm the transaction and your software transfers the required amount. Vendors then deposit coins in their own digital accounts.

Credit card systems will give Internet commerce a boost, providing mail order companies with a novel outlet for their wares, but ultimately they can only be part of the solution. Much net commerce is likely to revolve around small payments for data, whether it is paying pennies to read an online database or taking part in an interactive game.

DigiCash has just gone live, teaming up with the Mark Twain Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, which provides the bank accounts. Swedish Post, whose retail banking arm has

direct access to more than 75 per cent of Swedish households, has also bought a licence to use eCash, although it has yet to give a launch date.

Well-reported cases of hackers stealing data have raised fears about the security of money on the Internet. But DigiCash maintains that the built-in security provided by eCash makes it more secure than existing methods of holding money. eCash uses encryption techniques as powerful as those used for nuclear secrets to protect it in transfer, and a digital signature that makes any coin unique and usable just once. If you lose your money, through a computer crash for instance, a back-up number allows you to regenerate the coins. If some-

one refuses to give you a receipt, the digital signature will provide proof that you spent the money.

But every advance in electronic money technology increases fears that the freedom that digital money offers also increases the potential for abuse. The ability to transfer sums anywhere in the world instantaneously, was previously only available to the money markets. Now it will be possible for anyone to send funds to some Internet bank offshore, far beyond the reach of the taxman, or to set up an Internet business in any obliging country in the world, without leaving home.

Mr Hammond, whose Hammond organisation specialises in Internet and

the flipside is that the world could return to a system of competing private currencies, and when trust breaks down much of the issued eCash will end up worth no more than monopoly money. In America in the mid-nineteenth century, a number of US banks that privately issued money crashed, leading the government to take control of the money system.

It is trust that is the essential element in the equation.

Money can only act as a store of value if people believe in it.

For the moment digital money is likely to preserve its value only if it can be exchanged for traditional currencies like the dollar, sterling or the mark.

"People have trust in the existing banking system and it

BUSINESS LETTERS

Funding a personal service to beat youth unemployment

From Mr George Barlow

Sir. As chairman of the Gateway Project and Partnership in south Southwark, I must write to endorse the South London Training and Enterprise Council call for substantial investment in training and work experience for young people in London, as reported on January 2.

Gateway opened its doors two years ago to house, train and prepare 116 formerly homeless young people for work. The on-site training service provided has been hugely

successful in getting 96 young people into work and 50 into further education. The customised assessment and training compact entered into by each young person has been the key to this success. It is a matter of regret that this vital ingredient in the training programme is not government-funded, but is dependent on the vagaries of charitable giving.

The message is clear — the government-funded training packages, funded through the Training and Enterprise Councils, in themselves are

not sufficient to aid the transition into the world of work".

The key is the personal assessment of training needs and the compact to achieve agreed targets, which now requires reliable and substantial investment if mass youth unemployment in London is to be avoided.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BARLOW

(Chief Executive),

Peabody Trust,

45 Westminster Bridge Road,

SE1.

Tariffs system  
has to change

From Mr Paul S. Ing

Sir. Regarding "Cryuchank lays down the law" (Preston, December 22), it seems continued British suicide that UK businesses are commercially forced to purchase communications products and services from overseas communications companies who do not have to submit their products and tariffs to the regulator.

Given British Telecom and Mercury have to submit their tariffs for services publicly, it allows overseas post and telecommunications companies to cherry-pick the UK market.

This structure is killing

Mercury and unless we act

soon we will lose another excellent British company. So please let us all play on the same playing field and allow UK business to purchase and fully support UK plc.

Yours faithfully,

H. R. WYNNE-GRIFFITH

Barnet Waddingham,

Consulting actuaries,

Bow Bells House,

11 Bread Street, EC4.



Blair misses  
the point

Tony Blair is a man of strong opinions, but he doesn't quite know what they are. His speech in Singapore yesterday laid out Mr Blair's reconstruction of the Labour Party by giving the voters a positive reason to support Labour. Contrary to the world-weary cynicism that passes for insight in the dinner party consensus, Mr Blair does have a big idea. In fact, he has at least two big ideas. The trouble is that they sound clichéd, meaningless and uninspiring.

Mr Blair says that he wants to create a "stakeholder society" that would bind the nation together in the common enterprise of achieving economic success. He also wants to eradicate long-term unemployment, promising that "the problems of low pay and unemployment must be tackled at source". What he does not seem to recognise — and certainly does not convey — are the potentially revolutionary implications of these apparent platitudes.

Beneath the hideous business school jargon of the "stakeholder society", what Mr Blair seems to be talking about is a new definition of socialism: as the antithesis of capitalism but of narrow individualism. He is repudiating the Thatcherite slogan that "there is no such thing as society". He is implying that an every-man-for-himself society in which individuals confine themselves to fighting for their own material interests will not be politically popular or even economically successful.

In making these claims, Mr Blair seems to have stumbled onto a potentially inspiring project for the new Left: to redefine socialism as the politics of co-operative social action, rather than of state ownership or income redistribution. The biggest brake on the development of eCash is that consumers offering eCash are taking deposits," says Chris Bailey, a spokesman for the Bank. "If it is, and it looks as though in most cases it will be, the company will have to fulfil deposit-taking regulations. Consumers will be protected by existing regulations."

But the biggest brake on the development of eCash is that the consumer, who finds it hard enough already to put trust in the banking and monetary system. To expect digital money to sweep the system away almost overnight is to make the old mistake of assuming technology always drives people. Digital money will only succeed if it adapts to the needs of its users.

agerial jargon to the language of social revolution?

Now consider unemployment. To tackle unemployment "at source" would require a complete transformation in the conduct of economic policy in Britain. The minimum conditions would be root-and-branch reform of the Treasury and the Bank of England — including the removal of most of their senior officials — and total repudiation of the monetarist orthodoxy that governments must never "take risks" with inflation, enthusiastically endorsed by Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor.

There is a simple arithmetic fact: unemployment can only be reduced if the economy grows by more than the growth of productivity plus the growth in the number of people who want to work. Given the rapid rate of technological progress that Mr Blair wants to promote and the large number of alienated, work-shy and otherwise discouraged people he wants to coax into the labour force, the combined growth of productive potential is likely to be at least 3 per cent. If it is, then, a matter of simple arithmetic to see that unemployment can only be reduced within a reasonable period — say the five-year lifetime of a parliament — if the economy grows by about 4 per cent.

What (if anything) a government can do to achieve such rapid growth is an open question. What is indisputable, however, is that the Treasury and the Bank can easily prevent rapid growth taking place. All they have to do is to raise interest rates and/or taxes every time the economy accelerates above, say, 3.5 per cent. This is precisely what the people who now run the Treasury and the Bank devoutly believe in. Long-term stagnation, combined with permanent mass unemployment, can then be guaranteed.

Yet Labour leaves this powerful point to be made by such anti-establishment right-wingers as Patrick Minford and John Redwood. Meanwhile, Mr Blair does not seem to understand his own promises and cries only crocodile tears for the unemployed.

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COLIN CAMPBELL

diture such as pension rights that automatically increase as their service gets longer. Each year that goes by adds an additional unit of pension. In many cases, the same is true when salary is increased. The simplistic approach to disclosure suggested by Greenbury will lead to more of the unhelpful comparisons that are quoted in the article.

Whilst disclosure is important, great care must be taken to ensure that complex exper-

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## ■ VISUAL ART 1

Provocation in bulk: a famous collection of Schiele's work goes on show in Düsseldorf



## ■ VISUAL ART 2

Something for the pilgrims: a new centre for contemporary art opens in Santiago de Compostela



## ■ VISUAL ART 3

Unfashionable virtues and haunting vision are exhibited in Christopher Bramham's show



## ■ TOMORROW

An image of elitism? The cameras come to Covent Garden as it struggles to justify its millions

In Germany, Richard Cork marvels at a definitive exhibition of Egon Schiele; plus other shows abroad and at home

# A short life, but a great one

**D**ying at the age of 28, Egon Schiele never proved that he was more than an astonishingly precocious talent. But by succumbing to the calamitous Spanish flu epidemic of 1918, he remained, eerily faithful to his central obsession as an artist. For the overriding theme of his work, from teenage years through to the end, is mortality. Schiele was incapable of looking at the human form without becoming anxiously and yet fiercely conscious of extinction.

Far from lapsing into morbidity, he knew how to let this grim preoccupation energise his art. Paradoxically, his awareness of the grave sparked his imagination into life. It ensured that the exhibition of more than 150 paintings, watercolours and drawings at the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen in Düsseldorf is fuelled by a swift, assured and often exuberant dynamism.

For the first time in Europe, the full extent of Rudolf Leopold's legendary Schiele collection is here on display. It adds up to a bracing experience, not least because Leopold has never been afraid to acquire the toughest and most controversial examples of Schiele's prolific output.

Although he discovered his individual outlook at an unusually early age, Schiele owed a large debt to Gustav Klimt. The latter's willingness to simplify and flatten, claiming the right to improvise with colour in an almost musical way, liberated the adolescent Schiele. He introduced himself to Klimt while still a student in Vienna, and benefited hugely from the older man's encouragement.

But if his style was influenced by Klimt, he lost little time in refining his own vision. Klimt rejoiced in the peacock elegance of his impeccably fashionable female sitters. Even his melancholy symbolism becomes decorative, and un-

ashamed hedonism nourishes his languorous drawings of the nude. However much he learnt from Klimt's audacity, Schiele looked on the world with a harsher eye.

As early as 1908, his drawing of a naked man viewed from behind stresses emaciation rather than sensuality. Typically, he makes the unknown model bend right over and stare back at us, face upside-down. The startling informality of

the pose is countered by the harshness with which Schiele defines the projecting spine. He always searched for the skeleton beneath the skin, and never relinquished his governing interest in the violence of line.

Never content to let his sitters adopt conventional poses, Schiele asked them to take up ever more arresting attitudes. This insistence sometimes seems unsparing, especially when children are depicted and he discloses their nakedness with alarming frankness.

Schiele's most direct images of juvenile models led to his arrest and imprisonment in 1912, charged with pornographic indecency. But the truth is that he viewed the young with the same astringency he trained on adults.

The two stages of life are powerfully brought together in a series of watercolours called *Mother and Daughter*, where girl and woman embrace each other so fervently that they seem on the point of fusing into a single figure. Schiele

exposes their blanched attenuation, and alleviates it only with ferocious gashes of scarlet on the mother's lips and cheek.

Moreover, anyone who accuses him of exploiting his models' vulnerability should remember how Schiele scrutinised his own body. Time and again he gazed in the mirror, motivated not only by narcissism but also, more significantly, by an urge to see himself as the quintessence of bare frailty.

Despite the heroic size of his 1910 seated self-portrait, the figure defined there is painfully gaunt. Hip and shoulder bones jut out like sharply pointed rocks from the contours outlined with such abrasive precision on the canvas. Stripped of everything save a meagre coating of flesh, Schiele looks positively flayed as he lurches to the side. With one wiry arm defensively hugging his neck, he seems to anticipate an assault. The absence of a visible seat accentuates his instability, and the emptiness of the surrounding white space makes him appear utterly isolated.

Even here, at the age of 20, Schiele knew exactly what to leave out. His grasp of pictorial economy often has an oriental flavour, suggesting an intelligent interest in Japanese prints. But the anxiety reflected clearly in his work is unmistakably Viennese, a product of the same fascination with psychological tensions that fired Sigmund Freud's pioneering investigations.

Wherever we look in this relentless show, humanity seems to be in extremes. Self-conscious figures, aware of being watched, claw at the air with talon-like fingers or contort their limbs in positions eloquent of strain and suffering. Sometimes they protest too much: the gestures become melodramatic, and Schiele is guilty of turning disquiet into a mannerism. More often than not, though, his formidable rigour prevents the images from sliding towards self-indulgence.



*Self-portrait with winter cherries* (1912) illustrates the stark focus which Schiele applied to all his depictions of the human form

Take *The Hermits*, the grandest painting on view here. Schiele, shown full-length, occupies the centre of the canvas. His hollowed-out down-turned face frowns out at us, his black eyes taking on a peculiarly diabolical air. Thorns crown his head, a symbol of suffering so obvious that it could easily have degenerated into self-pity. But the presence of an older, bearded man close behind him, resting his head on Schiele's shoulder as if from terminal fatigue, gives the painting an unexpected tension. So does the decision to

swathe both figures in black robes, lending the picture an austerity that somehow cancels out the threat of overheated emotionalism.

To judge by the prodigious amount of art he produced, Schiele must have been an exceptionally disciplined and hard-working young man. Admittedly his innate facility helped him to achieve impressive results with the minimum amount of fuss: many of these deft, single-minded drawings look as if they were produced very quickly indeed.

Most of the paintings, though, betray signs of considerable labour. Obliterated earlier versions are detectable beneath the final, worried-over layers of pigment, and the deserted townscapes in particular must be the result of great deliberation.

In this respect, Schiele was well-equipped to benefit from a long, industrious career. But before we lament his untimely loss, the change in his final phase of work ought to make us pause. Marriage coincided with a softening of both style and outlook. Some of the

demonic energy seeps out of his art in 1918, and two unfinished paintings of female nudes are surprisingly feeble.

If he had lived, Schiele might well have become complacent, slick and dull. But death, an unseen yet omnipresent force in all his finest work, made sure that he was never able to betray his youthful brilliance.

• *Egon Schiele is at the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf (0219 83 81-0) until Mar 10*

# A question of lights and death

An ancient Spanish church provides a spectacular setting for modern art, says John Russell Taylor

**N**ot so much has changed since pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela were expected to arrive on their knees, clutching their scallop shells. Admittedly the pilgrims now tend to arrive in tour buses, but visually most of the historic centre has been kept intact. And where the modern world has decided to intrude, the intervention is made with taste and enterprise.

The most notable recent example is the new Centro Gallego de Arte Contemporáneo, which opened last year with an exhibition devoted to the work of its architect, the fashionable and highly imaginative Portuguese, Álvaro Siza.

The Centro complex is right on the edge of the conservation area, next to the Gothic church of San Domingos de Bonaval and its adjoining monastery, now the Museo du Pobo Galego. From the outside, the

Centro is an irregular block of white stone, a huge modern sculpture dropped down on a plinth and just glimpsed from the bottom of a small rise, where the old town effectively ends. As you approach the Centro, it is gradually revealed, but what you are mainly aware of is San Domingos straight ahead.

It is therefore obvious at once that something extraordinary is going on in the largely dismissed church: that something proves to be a new exhibition/installation organised by the Centro, the first of a series which will invite various contemporary artists to do what they will with the spectacular space of the church's interior.

The first artist to make use of this great new resource, added to the other great new resource of the Centro's main building, is Christian Boltanski. The show he has devised is called *Advento*, which makes

a brilliant play of several familiar elements of his art as well as adding some new.

Anyone who has ever seen a Boltanski show will expect those faded, period snapshots of children from the 1940s, each with its accompanying illumination suggesting a sort of votive candle. Sure enough, most of the main walls in the vestibule, nave and transepts are scattered with them, this time with the wiring for the lights meandering from unit to unit in such a way that the whole thing evokes one of those medieval wall-paintings of the family of man or the generations of Israel. There are also a couple of partitions made up of that other old Boltanski prop, the rusting biscuit tins which suggest compartments in a crematorium.

But look down, and you see something very different. At a glance it suggests Boltanski's notorious marshalling of old clothes, which visitors are requested to carry off for their own use at the Serpentine recently. But this is much more orderly: overcoats in a variety of cheery colours are laid out over the nave floor in a regular pattern which evokes visions of monks in oblation, facing the altar. (Except that the ape holds no altar, but a clutter of boxes under dust sheets, not even illuminated after dark.)

Boltanski explains that the coats are intended for Sarajevo, and at the close of the show will be transported there in a fleet of cars, one to each car: a concept evidently stronger on symbolism than on practicality. Look right up, and on the ceiling of the north transept there is a shadow-show, a *la javana*, of angel shapes circling the dome.

As usual, it is all about death. But, even more, it is about transience, and the way that, if forgetting abolishes, remembering inevitably transforms. In the context of Santiago, and specifically of this historic building, the question



Works of art bound for a useful life in Sarajevo: Boltanski's overcoats spread across the nave floor like prostrate monks

must arise, "But is it art?" Boltanski is quite sanguine about that one: "Don't tell them that what they are looking at is supposed to be art. Never let the word 'art' raise its ugly head." It is just a mysterious, evocative experience that visitors are offered, and what, if anything, they choose to call it is their concern.

In any case, evidently with the Centro in their midst, consistently pursuing the propagation of the contemporary, the inhabitants of Santiago de Compostela will soon become accustomed to it, even if they are not already. In the Centro itself there is another exhibition — also conceptual, also visually stunning — called *A Possible Landscape* by the New York-based Felix Gonzalez-Torres, which again concerns memory and death, evoking in a variety of ways, direct and indirect, the materials of the artist's life story and

the death from an AIDS-related illness of his lover.

Gonzalez-Torres also spills out over the town, with many strategically placed billboards featuring without explanation his brooding black-and-white photographs of birds against a threatening sky.

What is impressive about the whole thing is the complicity, even enthusiasm, of the local authorities. Possibly the Centro may be considered fortunate in being able to call for support not only on the Spanish State, but also on the autonomous government of Galicia, prominent representatives of which were present at the opening. One fears that an analogous situation in Britain could it exist, would probably lead to a wholesale passing of buck.

Both shows are at the new Centro Gallego de Arte Contemporáneo, Valde Inclán, Santiago de Compostela, Galicia (08481 54662) until March

Christopher Bramham is a painter with all the great unfashionable virtues which make for artistic longevity. Now in his early forties, he paints mainly urban landscapes, Richmond Park being about as far as he usually ventures out into the wilds, as well as the odd interior and still-life. His colour range is deliberately subdued: the greens are generally greyish, under leaden skies, and if the sun does shine its effect is likely to be bleaching rather than irradiating. Why, then, is there something so haunting about these apparently drab scenes, particularly favouring the small areas of struggling nature hemmed in by railway lines? No doubt it has a lot to do with the sheer intensity of Bramham's vision: his delight at seeing the vegetable world winning through against all odds. Then there is the confident, unobtrusive skill of his craftsmanship, which brings him closest, perhaps, to the Lucian Freud of the Paddington pictures. A quiet talent, but one that comes through loud and clear.

*Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, London W1 (0171-629 5161)* until Jan 25

□ Chris Beetles' annual winter shows of originals by British illustrators from the 18th century onwards have become an institution, if not a national treasure. This year the standard is as high as ever. Of course, not all illustrators are to the taste of all collectors, but the sheer variety of art on show is so enormous that only the very hard-to-please could find nothing to interest them. The usual favourites are still out in force: Rackham, Heath Robinson and Peake make a good show on their own, before one progresses to the lesser known, but often equally deserving. One contemporary of Rackham who deserves to be much better known is Edmund J. Sullivan (1869-1933), who had the curious distinction of teaching the teenage Hitchcock how to draw and, more importantly, how to go straight for the dramatic point of any composition. The drawings from his brilliant satire *The Kaiser's Garland* (1915) indicate a feeling for the macabre which cannot have gone amiss with the future creator of Psycho. A later illustrator who comes out very well is James Boswell,

whose work instantly inspires a flash nostalgia for the chic and swinging 1960s, while among our own contemporaries Larry establishes a new corner for himself with a series of cartoons in which dogs are inserted into great paintings of the past. Who would have guessed that the infant Jesus in Millais' famous picture of Joseph's workshop looks so miserable because he has just been bitten by the family retriever?

*Chris Beetles, 10 Ryder Street, London SW1 (0171-539 7551), until Jan 19, then a compact version for another month*

□ Although hardly ever taken seriously as an artist by serious people, Rowland Hilder was always able to map out his own territory in the English landscape and lay a claim to that it no other could rival. Perhaps his most distinctive skill was in the depiction of leafless trees in winter, their elegant tracery picked out against a frosty blue sky. Throughout his long life (1905-1993) he also had a special affinity with the sea and seafarers — he was one of the best illustrators of *Treasure Island* — and took great delight in the simple flowers of the English countryside, as in his *Sheil Guide* to the subject. He was an eloquent watercol-

ourist, although perhaps more in the line of coloured drawings than in the broad washes favoured by the purist, and always an incisive draughtsman. This show, drawn from the artist's studio, strongly suggests that a reappraisal is in order.

*Duncan Campbell, 15 Thackray Street, London W8 (0171-937 8665)*, until Feb 2

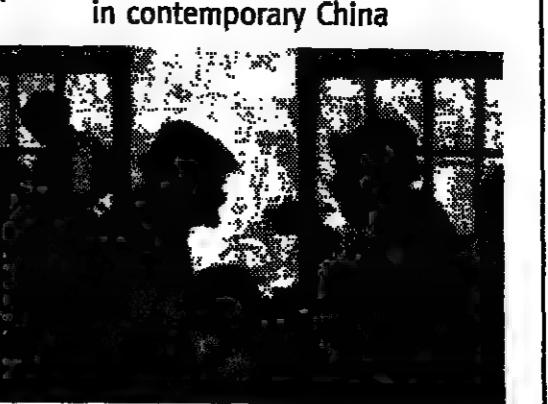
□ The Friends Room of the Royal Academy, just off the main entrance, is one of the lesser-known selling spaces of London. But the present show is well worth seeking out. In a faint echo of the Africa show on in the main galleries, it presents a selection of Kuba raffia textiles, mostly made since 1950, although following a form and tradition which goes back at least to the 17th century. The Kuba are a people of Zaire, and their cloths are mainly woven from palm raffia. The designs are largely geometric, the results timeless if one were assured that the designers were trained at the Bauhaus, one would hardly doubt the truth of the statement.

*Friends Room, Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (0171-494 5668)* until Jan 18

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## ■ TELEVISION

Thirty years of British sleaze are evoked in Peter Flannery's new drama series



## ■ POP

The shortlist for the Brit Awards pays expected homage to Blur and other focal lads



## ■ MUSIC 1

Richard Rodney Bennett's works are prominent in the opening night of PLG Young Artists



## ■ MUSIC 2

Rough edges are noticeable as the Lindsay Quartet continue their journey through Beethoven

# Power corrupts ... eventually

After 14 years in television limbo, an epic and timely tale of political sleaze is about to hit our screens. Ros Drinkwater reports

Peter Flannery's decision to dish the political dirt in what could be an election year may strike cynics as a master stroke of timing. But not so. *Our Friends in the North*, his 11-hour saga of sleaze in British life from the 1960s to the 1990s, has had a long and painful gestation period — 14 years of angst and off-the-air drama including, in 1989, threats of resignation by a senior BBC solicitor. If the production went ahead, and in 1993 threats of resignation by a senior BBC producer if it did not.

It was in 1982 that BBC's Michael Wearing (then producing *Boys from the Blackstuff*) commissioned a reluctant Flannery to write a four-part television adaptation of his original stage play. "I didn't believe it would be made," Flannery says. "In 1982 there were more legal difficulties, but time and the grave have taken care of most of them. Just as we were about to roll, Michael Grade was appointed Controller of BBC1 with brief to find popular drama. He found it in *EastEnders*, and my project was swept off the desk. I was given the impression that I could take my scripts and my nylon T-shirt and bugger off back north."

In 1989, with Flannery's reputation as a television writer established by the likes of *Black Justice*, Wearing decided to have another go. Given the green light by Alan Yentob, the current Controller, he commissioned a second draft, updated and extended to eight episodes. Flannery had reached episode seven when the lawyers asked to see the scripts.

"At that time the BBC had considerable legal problems. In an effort to avoid costly libel actions the lawyers were demanding that ideas be cleared with them; before they were written. I was told to set the story in a fictional country called Albion, that I mustn't mention Labour, the Tories, Newcastle, or any police rank above superintendent. I said no one would sue me — people had either been in prison and lost their reputations, or they had helped me, or they were dead and that, as it was a fictionalised account, anything I'd written was fair comment. The farce ended with a solicitor saying: 'If this goes into production I will resign.' So we were stopped. Again."

Flannery wrote to Wearing, warning him never to mention the words *Our Friends in the North* again, a warning that Wearing chose to disregard. In 1992 it was a case of third time lucky: a third update was commissioned, produced and will soon be on our screens.

**F**lannery in the flesh comes as a surprise. One would take him for a kindly scholar, softly spoken, mild of manner. His bifurcated surfaces in his opinions of politicians in general, the Metropolitan Police in particular, 1970s crime correspondents, soap operas and the rise of public relations, "giving gloss instead of content, work experience instead of job".

Born in 1951, the son of a Jarrow labourer, Flannery graduated from Manchester University in 1973 with a degree in drama. "I was political only in the way that working-class boys from that area tend to be. You have axes to grind about 'them and us', you are basically disposed towards Labour and you hate the Tories, but it's fairly unthinking, it's in the blood, so to say. I wasn't and never have been a member of any political organisation."

*Our Friends in the North* was first commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1981. Its essence,

then and now, lies in the development of four personal relationships: the idea born of Flannery's need to explore a question that intrigued him — why was his parents' generation in the North East so apathetic and cynical? "I perceived the possibility of political change, they saw it as an impossibility, offering as evidence corruption in the 1970s — golden handshakes, vice scandals, Poulson, T. Dan Smith, the unacceptable face of capitalism."

"I rang Smith and said I wanted to write a play about apathy, decay and corruption in British politics. 'Ah,' he said, 'there is a play here of Shakespearean proportions.' Tolstoy-esque, more like *Our Friends*, as filmed by the BBC, uses 160 named characters and 3,000 extras, and is the biggest contemporary serial ever produced by BBC2.

Smith led Flannery to examine alleged corruption in the police force. "I found the stories overlapping, the same people were involved." Conversations with Frank Williamson, the first outsider to head an inquiry into alleged Metropolitan Police corruption, revealed a similar tale. "Most of those involved were never charged, their defence was always that they had worked entirely in the public interest, just as T. Dan had maintained regarding the housing scandals."

According to Flannery, Williamson's report to Reginald Maudling, the then Home Secretary, was wholly damning. "He believed there was systematic corruption both in the Met and the CID. The report was returned to him within two hours, without comment. He never received an acknowledgement and he resigned. What Williamson didn't know was that at that time he was investigating Poulson, and who was chairman of Poulson's company at the time, bribes were handed out to Maudling. Some of the people who were detective sergeants and inspectors in the late Sixties and Seventies are now men of more senior rank."

The update to 1995 means that the story now ends as it begins, with a new-model Labour Party and a bright new Labour leader. "Life's a circle," Flannery says. "Regimes come and go, but lies and betrayals go on for ever. There has always been corruption in politics; all that was different about the Sixties was that because of some good campaigning journalism some of the scandals were brought out into the open."

"I've moved from being an angry young political writer to a much more confused political animal who now sees the value in writing about relationships. We live in an ongoing culture of corruption. *Friends in the North* is the story of people who tried to do something about it, and failed. It may be a Utopian ideal, but we must keep trying because the drift is always in the other direction. Corruption breeds corruption. I'd love to believe that a Labour victory would start a clean-up in politics, but I'm afraid they'll be trapped by the very institutions that support them."

"I dread the prospect of Tony Blair gradually disappearing into himself at the end of the century, having to come out with the same compromises and half-truths in order to defend the system that supports him. In many ways T. Dan Smith was a villain, but he had this boundless optimism that he could change the world. His last words to me before he died are worth remembering — 'Tomorrow is tomorrow.'

• Our Friends in the North begins next Monday at 9pm on BBC2

David Sinclair wonders if it is healthy for a small clique of bands to win a disproportionate number of awards

## Britpop will dominate Brits

To gauge the extent of that "renaissance" it is worth remembering that when Blur swept the board at last year's Brits, winning four awards and leaving Oasis to console themselves with a trophy for Best British Newcomer, the mass of the British public hardly knew who either of these young groups were. Most newspapers illustrated the event with a picture of Madonna, an American who had not actually won anything. A year later, those same groups are so familiar that the event is beginning to look like an exercise in rounding up the usual suspects.

Predictably, this year's nominations confirm the domination of the so-called Britpop bands. Four acts — Blur,

Oasis, Pulp and (slightly more surprisingly) Radiohead — have established a virtual stranglehold in every category for which they are eligible: Best British Group, Album, Producer, Video and Single. Supergrass are nominated in three categories (Newcomer, Video and Single) and apart from Tricky, the Best British Newcomers are all Britpop favourites — Black Grape, Supergrass, Elastica and Cast.

It is hard to think what could be better news for the Brits than the arrival of Britpop. A vindication of everything the awards stand for, even the name "Britpop", spontaneously coined sometime last summer, could have been tailor-made to bolster the credibility of the event. After

all, if the aim is to celebrate and promote the British music industry it helps to have something appealing, timely and genuinely successful to celebrate. The NME's Brit awards — the supposed anti-establishment alternative to the "moribund" Brits — features an almost identical line-up in most of its nominations, also announced last week.

But the concentration on this small clique of acts rather begs the question of what is going on elsewhere in our music industry, and whether Britpop is now commanding a disproportionate amount of media attention and music industry resources. Take That are nominated for Best Video and Best Single, but otherwise the teeny bands have been

completely wiped out. And did none of the shortlisted British dance acts — Eternal, Leftfield, Massive Attack, M People and Tricky — or solo acts (with the single exception of the Britpop-affiliated Paul Weller) make an album worthy of inclusion in the Best Album list? It seems not.

The paucity of British female solo acts this year is especially noticeable. There were only about a dozen who were even eligible, having released an album during the appropriate period, and those that are include such venerable ladies as Shirley Bassey, Elaine Paige and Olivia Newton-John. The eventual shortlist of P.J. Harvey, Annie Lennox, Vanessa Mae, Shara Nelson and Joani Armatrading

is not hugely inspiring, and I trust Harvey will win it by a mile.

Internationally, the Best Female Solo Artist is one of the livelier categories with the stylish Björk, k.d. lang and Alanis Morissette facing heavyweight opposition in the slender shapes of Mariah Carey and Celine Dion. And it is encouraging to see the (comparatively) fresh faces of Foo Fighters, Garbage and Morissette all nominated in two categories.

OTHER NOMINEES: Best British Male Solo Artist: Edwyn Collins, Van Morrison, Jimmy Nail, Tricky, Paul Weller. Best International Male Solo Artist: Coolio, Lenny Kravitz, Meat Loaf, Prince, Neil Young. Best Soundtrack: *Batman*, *Braveheart*, *Muriel's Wedding*, *Natural Born Killers*, *Waiting to Exhale*.



England, their England: (top) Malcolm McDowell; (middle) police under threat; (above, from left) Daniel Craig, Mark Strong, Gina McKee and Christopher Eccleston, *Our Friends in the North*

## Fine view from a double-decker

PLG Young Artists  
Purcell Room

Double-decker concerts, two each evening, are the basis of the Park Lane Group's Young Artists Series, which annually gives a kick-start to the new year's music. Not only do they bring forward much of the best new classical talent around, but the artists are heard mostly in music by composers of their own generation.

So it was with both the first night programmes, the latter of which boldly juxtaposed a saxophone quartet with a solo marimba played by Colin Boyle. Melower than its near relation the xylophone, the marimba demands a skilled technique if it is not to sound unduly monochromatic, and this Boyle supplied in abundance in his four-hammer attack on the American Jacob Druckman's Debussy tribute, *Reflections on the Nature of Water*, and the desert landscape evocation of Piers Hellawell's *Takla Makan*.

Boyle, a Scot, also has a vivid control of dynamics down to a whisper-soft pianissimo, which he further demonstrated in a nicely varied *Prelude*, *Meditation* and *Toocata* by Matthew Taylor, and in another Debussy tribute, *After Syring II* by Richard Rodney Bennett, where the variations on the original flute writing have been cleverly converted into new material to take the marimba repertoire one step wider.

Bennett also added richness to saxophone music with his *Saxophone Quartet* (1994), played here with beguiling assurance by the three women and one man who call themselves *Saxplotation*. As well

NOEL GOODWIN

## Erratic cycle path

Lindsay Quartet  
Wigmore Hall

On Friday and Saturday nights at the Wigmore Hall, the Lindsay Quartet progressed to the halfway point in their Beethoven cycle. The technical accomplishment of the Lindsays is considerable, yet it cannot be taken for granted. Whether one looks back to great ensembles of the past (the Amadeus spring to mind) or sideways at quartets of the new generation (the Skampas and the Brindis, to name just two), the comparison is not flattering on a technical level. A performance from the Lindsays comes complete with rough edges, occasional wayward tuning (most noticeably from the leader Peter Cropper) and even a sense of detachment.

Op 18 No 2, opening Friday's concert, exemplified this lack of polish, and although Op 127 in E Flat Major featured some powerfully conceived playing, it was let down by momentary lapses of concentration and a curious air of disengagement. When they get into their stride, however, the Lindsays are capable of extraordinary things. The first Razumovsky quartet, Op 59 No 1, brought the finest playing in Friday's concert. The opening movement, with its surging main theme and coursing repeated quavers in the accompaniment, built up to a serene glow.

Saturday's concert was a more consistent affair, with thoroughly engaging accounts of further early (Op 18 No 3 in D), middle (Op 95 in F Minor) and late (Op 130 in B Flat) works. The homogeneity and thematic interplay of Op 18 No 3 were a delight, as was the intensity in the outer movements of Op 95 (*Serioso*).

If the progress of the late B Flat Quartet was a touch more erratic that is in the nature of the piece. Beethoven's repeated dislocations of tempo and rhythm do not make for easy listening, but the Lindsays held our attention with the quiet authority and integrity of their playing.

Op 130 can be heard again, this time with the *Grosse Fuge* as finale, in Wednesday's concert, but tickets are virtually impossible to come by.

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aula Davies wonders about the wisdom of using private firms to help at court

## Security plc: is this the best way to go?

was all I could do to keep a straight face. As a lynch, we had given permission for two defendants aged 15 and 17 to be brought — handcuffed — into court: a situation I have never seen in my 20 years as a magistrate.

Tough-looking lads appeared, dwarfing the security officers. They looked as though they'd have thrown off their armbands with ease. While hoping that the security men knew defence, I wondered the crafty wisdom of using private-security officers rather than police when it comes to what used to be called jailing: moving prisoners from custody to court.

In the Criminal Justice Act 1991 that officially replaces the police presence, either escorts for ponies or court officers in the courthouse itself, or a private system. A few were placed before the Act because a shortage of police officers; most private systems have been phased in since 1993, some recently as last year. Now most of the police's role in relation to the courts has been privatised.

Courtsecurity is an important part for magistrates, who would take a dim view of chairs being thrown at them by any defendants. Under Section 1 of the Act, the powers of security officers include being empowered to search any person who is seeking to enter the courthouse and any article in the session of such a person.

They also exclude or remove in the courthouse any person who refuses to permit a search. And they are empowered to exclude or remove someone where it is reasonably necessary to do so in order to maintain order, to enable business to be carried out without interference or delay to secure his or any other person's safety. If necessary, "reasonable force" may be used.

According to Peter Badge, the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, instead of civilians instead the police in the adult courts been working better than people expected.

### Brder dpute

A BITTER cross-border clash has taken place between Tony Holland, former Law Society president, and Robin de Wildt, a founder of The Sk, the grassroots movement greater democracy at star.

The dispute has unfolded in the pages of *Counsel*, the Bar's joal. First into the fray was de Wildt. In an article in *Financial Times* extolling the virtues of Martin Mears, the Law Soc president, he accused the Law Society Council of trying its members' "own issue".

In the latest issue, rebutting allegation, Mr Holland's article is so full of lies — "it is hard to know where to start. It took me some time to realise that he was merely referring to what he believed to be real events," de Wildt claims the letter demonstrates why Mr Mears was elected

by the membership". He concludes: "Perhaps I might be allowed to agree that Mr Holland's decision to resign from the Council of the Law Society, is, as he puts it, 'one of his best decisions'."

**Hot night**  
PARTIES usually generate a lot of noise but just before Christmas, the first birthday party for FT Law & Tax, the legal publisher, generated more noise than most. It combined its party with a celebration of 100 years publishing its leading work, *Emmet on Title*. But the 100 candles on the black and pink iced cake set off the fire alarms.

To add to the confusion, latecomers were left out in the cold as the doors to the *Financial Times*' Southwark Bridge offices automatically locked to prevent anyone entering. Production on the

FT almost came to a halt as journalists were just stopped from running for the fire exits.

### Street cred

A POCKET guide to "street" law for school leavers was launched yesterday. The *Young Citizen's Passport* (99p) from the Citizenship Foundation gives practical advice on every aspect of the law encountered by young adults, from parties to landlords, motorbikes to credit and tax. A free copy has been sent to secondary schools and sixth-form colleges. Details: Tony Thorpe (0171-236 2171).

### CD Christmas

THE MOST original Christmas message came in the form of a CD recording of 32 of Lewis Silkin's partners and staff singing *Jingle Bells*, complete with "Ho-hos" and a

mix of male and female choruses. Peter Scott, the law firm's manager, says: "The Lewis Silkin Choral Ensemble was made up of volunteers. We had one rehearsal, followed by an hour in a recording studio." The firm printed 3,000 copies for clients. Mr Scott would not reveal the amount spent — to record a CD usually costs at least £2,000.

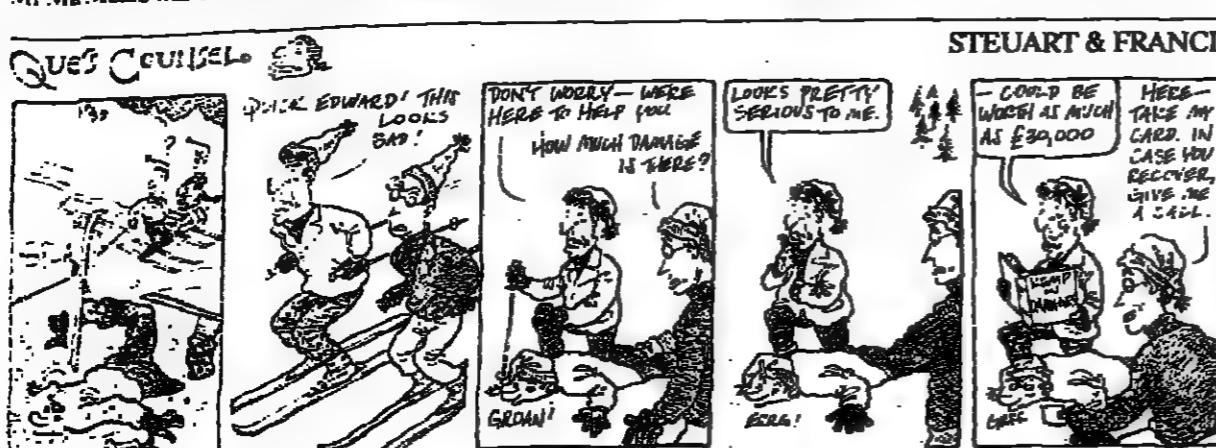
### Prime lines

OVERCROWDING on the Internet is predicted for 1996 in the latest *Internet Newsletter*, a guide for lawyers. It says growing interest will bring congestion: "Already, it is better to go online when the Americans are asleep — ie, in the morning for us — and the earlier the better."

The best time, it says, is 4am, when both America and Europe are asleep. Avoid afternoons and evenings. The newsletter (details 01273 472424) also says that costs of using the net will rise.

### SCRIVENOR

STEUART & FRANCIS



## LAW

● THE NEW BAR CHAIRMAN SPEAKS OUT 37

## French jury system may be restricted

The most important reform of the French criminal courts for 200 years has prompted a serious debate with the legal system. Lawyers, magistrates and academics agree that there is a problem but they cannot agree on the right solution.

Told by the overwhelming majority of the profession that the Cour d'assises — the courts that try such serious crimes as murder, rape and robbery — are outdated and unpopular, the country's Gaullist-led Government said in July that it would introduce a much-needed overhaul.

But the resulting Bill, which was outlined in a consultative document this autumn and is now going through Parliament, has sparked fierce controversy, with opponents claiming that it will restrict, if not abolish, the role of juries.

Under the present system, set up during the heady days of the French Revolution in 1789, crimes of violence are tried at the Cour d'assises by nine jurors sitting with three judges. They decide on the verdict and the sentence but are not asked for a written judgment. Less serious crimes, such as theft, are tried by three judges alone in the Tribunaux correctionnels.

The debate is over the future of the Cour d'assises, the one court where a jury is used. Few commentators have dared to question the theory behind such jury trials, but, in recent years, they have been increasingly prone to criticise a system that they feel does not always work on an equal basis throughout France and is also out of step with many other European countries.

Lawyers say that in different parts of the country jurors hand down widely differing sentences for the same crimes. Thus, in the South of France, rape is punished far more severely than in the North. An arsonist, on the other hand, is likely to fare better in Provence than in Normandy. None of this, critics say, would be of much importance if an appeal were possible. But, except in rare cases, it is not.

As in England, a verdict can be quashed only on a point of law or if new evidence comes to light. Yet, unlike England, there is no way of appealing against a sentence that appears particularly severe or lenient. "The jury is perceived as a manifestation of popular sovereignty and consequently it is felt that a decision reached by a jury should not be lightly interfered with," says a government briefing document on its legal system.

However, lawyers point out that defendants in a Tribunal correctionnel, being tried for less serious offences and without a jury, do have an automatic right of appeal. "We have a

system that is twisted," says Antoine Garapon, general secretary of the Institute of Superior Justice Studies in Paris. "It is incoherent."

He added that the Government's reforms were all the more urgent because the European Court of Human Rights has made it clear that defendants facing a heavy sentence should be given the possibility of a retrial.

Attempts by Jacques Toubon, the Minister of Justice, to deal with these complaints in his Bill has only created more conflict. Under his reforms a new court will be created, called the Tribunal criminel départemental, where three judges will sit alongside two citizen-assessors, who will play a role similar to lay magistrates in England. The new court will hand down a full written judgment, which will be open to appeal by either the prosecutor or the defendant. The Cour d'assises will be transformed into a court which will hear only appeal cases.

For M Toubon, the advantages of his system are many. Inconsistencies in sentencing should be eliminated, defendants facing serious charges will be given the same right to appeal as those accused of more minor charges, and the excessively long delays in bringing cases to court, often three or four years, should be reduced.

"All defendants who are appealing will be able, if they so desire, to opt for trial by jury, and in that case it will be the jury which will have the last word," the Justice Ministry says.

Many lawyers, however, are not so sure about these advantages. M Garapon says that, in practice, only about 10 per cent of cases would go to appeal, with the result that trial by jury would be very restricted.

"A lot of defendants simply want to get over with. For example, about a third of the cases in the present Cour d'assises concern sexual abuse and, for the accused, the trial is an ordeal which they will not want to go through again."

Jean-Claude Bouvier, general secretary of the Magistrates' Union, said that even where defendants did appeal, "the weight of the first decision will have enormous importance. The chances are that at the appeal the original sentence will be confirmed. The result will be to slim down the role of the jury."

Despite all these complaints, M Toubon says he will press ahead with his proposals, although he may introduce minor modifications. "These reforms," he said recently, "will reinforce the role of the jury."



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David Penry-Davey, QC: "He is strict, has high standards and works very hard — and expects others to do the same," says a colleague

## The Bar will speak out

David Penry-Davey, QC, is the new chairman  
of the Bar. Frances Gibb asks him his plans

**H**e looks like everyone's favourite uncle. He is affable and cracks jokes, but David Penry-Davey, QC, is not just a safe, unpredictable, air of hands. With a year of tough battles ahead, it is apparent the Bar has elected him to be its new leader.

Mr Penry-Davey — DPD to colleagues and friends — is a criminal practitioner from the profession's ranks. Like most of the Criminal Bar, his work is chiefly legal aid; much of it outside London on the circuits. So he brings personal knowledge of the criminal justice system and the proposed reforms on which the Bar intends to tackle the Government.

In style and experience, therefore, he could not be more of a contrast to his predecessor, Peter Goldsmith, QC, a smooth-spoken, exacting commercial silk who led an unremiring and intense campaign to modernise the Bar. Mr Penry-Davey's own head of chambers, Anthony Scrivener, QC — himself a former Bar chairman — says of his colleague: "David is a good all-round advocate. His strength is that he actually

mixes with the people on the circuit he represents. He will make an excellent leader — he's very popular, particularly with the Criminal Bar. He knows what's going on."

But if anyone thought Mr Penry-Davey's year would be one of steady consolidation, they were wrong. Since his inaugural speech last month to the Bar Council, the 90-strong governing body of the profession, he has laid down a series of markers: legal aid, Lord Woolf's reforms on civil justice, criminal justice policies, the Bar's own plans for a complaints system...

**M**ore significantly, he has lined up the Bar in clear opposition to the Government over its sentencing plans, to be outlined soon in a White Paper. In an attack on government sentencing policies, he says minimum sentences would destroy the Government's own incentives to criminals to plead guilty in the shape of sentence discounts. "What incentives will there be?" he says, "for anybody who might become liable to a minimum sentence to plead guilty?"

He also attacked the Home Secretary's method of formulating policy "by announcement" by announcing them to the Tory party conference, then implemented in hastily drafted legislation.

The Bar, he says, has been subject to "Criminal Justice Action" raining down on us like confetti, and swings in sentencing policy". First, courts were told only to jail offenders when strictly necessary and then, for a short time as possible, he says.

"Now," he adds, "it appears that judges are being told to do exactly the opposite — and we have the Tory party chairman [Brian Mawhinney] encouraging individuals to write in to say what they think of judges' sentences", an approach he "wholeheartedly" deplores. Mr Penry-Davey has delivered a similar attack on the Lord Chancellor's proposed reforms for the legal aid scheme.

Not that Mr Penry-Davey is particularly radical. A colleague describes him as a "free thinker" from a strong Tory background; his solicitor-father, whom he regrets did not live to see him become leader of the Southern Circuit (he held the post from 1992 to 1995), was a staunch local Conservative.

**W**hatever his policies, Mr Penry-Davey is a natural conservative; Martin Hart, his senior clerk, says: "He is very strict on attitude to the clients — always calls people 'Mr' or 'Mrs'.

never gets involved with their personal side and has high standards. He works hard, and expects others to do the same." In terms of Bar policies, he will pursue current initiatives. Formerly Bar vice-chairman, Mr Penry-Davey backs the proposals for a complaints system — proposals opposed, ironically, by some within the Criminal Bar. He rejects the claim that the

scheme involves abandoning self-regulation. "If we throw this modest scheme out, we send to the outside world the message that we are not prepared to regulate ourselves. And if we don't, somebody else will, perhaps in a way we find much more unpleasant."

Mr Penry-Davey's other concerns include the need for barristers to be trained in advocacy. As circuit leader, he set up a residential advocacy course and a sponsorship scheme for trainee barristers to go to America for training.

Outside the Bar, he is a family man. He and his wife, a drama teacher, live in Dulwich, south London, and have three children. He enjoys golf, music and fell-walking.

He is aware that many barristers regard "bringing up a family and earning a living" as more important than Bar Council matters. And he accepts that there is a limit to the impact one individual can have in one year as leader.

But in that time he is determined, as he puts it, that "its voice will be heard". He says: "If we can leave the profession in good shape at the end of 1996, I shall be content."

## Time for a limited move offshore?

Lawyers worried about their homes and cars are considering new options

**D**o you sleep well at night? Partners in professional firms were given uneasy dreams by last month's High Court judgment in the ADT case which, subject to an appeal, may mean personal bills of hundreds of thousands of pounds for Binder Hamlyn partners.

What happens to accountants today normally affects lawyers tomorrow. The case has highlighted the fact that "unlimited liability" means exactly what it says: that lawyers can face huge payouts when negligence is proved against them.

Lawyers agree that some protection is necessary. Graham New, Shoosmiths & Harrison's managing partner, says: "We have been looking at this issue, and we are shadowing what the accountants are doing."

In fact, the accountants are already demanding reform of the law on "joint and several liability" and the right to restrict their liability on audits by contract. In due course, lawyers may ask for an equivalent form of shelter.

For the present, however, most top law firms have been undertaking rapid reviews of their insurance cover. Peter Cole, the managing partner at Eversheds, says: "We live in a culture in which suing one's professional advisers seems to be increasingly attractive."

Among the top 20 firms, the current spread of cover is, for some, as low as £75 million; for others, £250 million. The average seems to be £125 million. The significance of this has been borne out in "beauty parades". Lawyers' pitching for work are sometimes asked about their level of professional indemnity cover. Some managing partners would like to have agreements

which raise objections. The route already adopted by some accountants, however, is incorporation. This does not protect the firm but it removes the homes and cars of individual partners from the firing line. Mr Knowles says that his firm already seriously considering incorporation.

He says: "There are many compelling reasons for a law firm like ours to incorporate, for example, to spread ownership, to provide a better remuneration system and have a better structure for managing the business. There would also be the advantage of protecting individual partners — but that would not be the main motive."

Ultimately, however, many lawyers believe that quality systems and risk assessment are the best ways of cutting down exposure.

Shoosmiths & Harrison is the biggest firm in the country to have the ISO 9001 "quality" standard and Mr New regards this as a key part of protecting the partnership.

Meanwhile, Julia Chain, managing partner at Garrett & Co, says that when she developed her systems, she borrowed heavily from Arthur Andersen, the accountancy firm with which Garrett & Co is associated. She adds: "We followed Arthur Andersen's experience in order to build the most rigorous system available."

In the end, however, there is no infallible system. Lawyers are prepared to live with risk so long as it is at a sensible level. "The idea is that one should be able to sleep at night," says Mr Heller, whose fervent dream is that a nightmare claim will never happen to him.

EDWARD FENNELL



Peter Cole: suing can seem too attractive; Julia Chain: followed Andersen's experience

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GRAHAM G

## Briton warned to speed up as O'Meara coasts to three-shot triumph Faldo delighted to settle for second

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN SAN DIEGO

**AN UPBEAT** Nick Faldo shrugged off a warning for slow play after a splendid, but vain, attempt to win the Mercedes Championship at La Costa, here on Sunday.

He was too euphoric over his fine form to be concerned at criticism from his playing partner, Mark O'Meara, who steadfastly defended a four-shot overnight lead to beat Faldo into second place by a three-stroke margin in the curtain-raiser to the 1996 US PGA Tour.

Faldo was delighted at making such a promising start to the season, with rounds of 70, 64, 68 and 67 giving him renewed hope that he can reassess himself on the American circuit and launch a worthwhile challenge for the four major championships.

The only sour note in an encouraging start to his campaign was Florida-based O'Meara's refusal to accept any blame after the pair, playing in the last group in the final round, were ordered to increase their pace of play in the interests of making a television deadline.

They had fallen a hole and a half behind the group ahead when they reached a critical stage in the showdown and both players were told to move faster at the 10th hole, where Faldo chipped in from 20 feet to cut his deficit to two shots. "It upset me," the 38-year-old British golfer said, after finishing on a 14-under-par 27. "The official said we were five

minutes behind schedule and had to move faster.

"We had the biggest gallery on the course. It is never easy to play quickly when you are in the last group. We made up a minute on each of the next three holes. Mark and I had four birdies between us over that stretch and you cannot play any faster than that. Then we were told they were putting the clock on us and that's the last thing you need in such a tense situation."

They were warned on two other occasions and Faldo, who made his feelings known to officials before accepting a cheque worth \$8,000 about

Scores 100

£57,000 for sharing second place with Scott Hoch of the United States, said: "It was completely unnecessary. If we had been left alone, we would have made up the time over the next two holes anyway."

O'Meara, who completed his eleventh Tour win with a closing 68, pointed the finger of blame at his rival, telling the tournament director: "If we are playing slowly, it has nothing to do with me. Slow play isn't a problem with my game. Nick said he was running but I was watching Faldo and thinking to myself: 'Why do you stand over the ball so long before hitting it?'

The penalty for slow play is one stroke and that was never likely to be applied, with officials reluctant to tarnish the occasion. While the general concern is laudable, Faldo and O'Meara completed the final round with eight minutes to spare before national television went off the air.

Faldo said: "I am not complaining because so many good things happened for me this week. I feel ready for a successful season after such an encouraging start. I improved my score every day and to have a 67 under-

pressure in the first event of the year has got to be good. I was particularly pleased with my driving — I only missed four fairways in 72 holes."

He had an eagle and five birdies with the title tilting towards O'Meara at the 11th, a testing 180-yard par three, where the British golfer's tee-shot finished four feet from the pin, with his rival eight yards away. The American holed his putt, while Faldo, clearly rattled by the slow play distraction, missed.

Faldo said: "That was the turning point. I expected to get within a shot of Mark and that would have put the pressure on him. Instead I lost a stroke and there was very little I could do after that."

He will take a three-week break before returning in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am and the Buick Invitational here and will then prepare for the Masters in April by playing five tournaments in

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Faldo celebrates after his successful birdie chip on the 10th hole at La Costa

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## O'Sullivan on way back after change of attitude

By PHIL YATES

**RONNIE O'SULLIVAN**, enjoying the afterglow of his success in the Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge at the weekend, refuted the suggestion that a lack of dedication had been responsible for his dismal start to the season.

There was a school of thought that said O'Sullivan, who, at 17, became the youngest winner of a world-ranking tournament when he prevailed in the 1993 United Kingdom championship, had neglected practice because of a growing complacency.

"It was nothing to do with preparation; it was something wrong upstairs," O'Sullivan said, after beating John Higgins 9-4 to win a £10,000 prize, earn £100,000 for the National Deaf Children's Society and collect his first trophy since the Benson and Hedges Masters II months ago.

"I found it hard to focus on one single thing but someone who I consider to be a good friend told me I had to start concentrating all my attention on snooker," O'Sullivan, who has slipped from third to seventh in the provisional world rankings since September, said.

His problem was a bad attitude. He gave opponents scant respect but, in the Charity Challenge, while still playing with aggression, he curbed the tendency to pot on sight. By creating scoring opportunities rather than trying to force them, his break-building became more potent.

"I didn't play like that, intentionally, at the start of the season, but I realise now that everyone in this game is capable of beating anyone else and I've learnt from experience," O'Sullivan, a first-round casualty in the Thailand Classic, Skoda Grand Prix and German Open, said.

Despite his defeat, Higgins, who eliminated Stephen Hendry, Jimmy White and Peter Ebdon, confirmed his status as one of the toughest players in the game.

### Liberian receives global accolade despite dubious European Cup display

## Forgive or forget in Weah's world


**ROB  
HUGHES**

Overseas Football

signed a contract effectively to defect to the opposition, to Milan, whom he joined in the summer.

Predictably, Paris were beaten: sadly, Weah performed way below his capabilities. Some months later, he dismissed accusations about his apparent lack of endeavour. "Absurd," he said. "I play every match 100 per cent. I can only score if the ball is put to me. It was not George Weah who played badly in that semi-final, it was the team of Paris."

How the Africans need him. The Nations Cup is already under a political cloud with the confirmation that Nigeria will not defend the champion ship after a call by Nelson Mandela, the president of South Africa, for sanctions against the country which stars on

the Nations Cup which starts on Saturday.

Yet Weah was the mirror of his team. In the previous round, he was magnificent against Barcelona. His balance, technique, strength and awareness turned bad passes into scoring opportunities. He impressed me as the best player in the world, running his muscular frame into areas of pain, riding challenges, wriggling and turning, shooting fearlessly.

As ever, sport and politics are inseparable. But can the many who gave so much acclaim — and, last night, the voters were the national team managers round the globe — all be wrong. In terms of skill, Africa's contribution to the international game, its production of creative ball-players and goal-scorers, is more than welcome.

However, I would not have given Weah my vote because of something that happened during the semi-final of the European Cup between AC Milan and Paris Saint-Germain on April 19 last year.

That night, among a crowd of 74,000 at the San Siro, I suspected that Weah was wearing the wrong colours. He was representing Paris, but before the game had

footed as a substitute for war? Even Fifa endorses the fantasy. It referred to Weah,

29, as "a mixture of godfather, coach, forward, captain, organiser, financier, provider and occasionally even nurse". And it quoted Kenneth Jackson, a Liberian journalist, saying: "Weah is like a flame to us. As long as it burns, we can forget the suffering and pain, we can dream of freedom."

Weah would indeed appear to be all things to all men. It might seem a little churlish to question his achievements in 1995. Leading the other Liberian mercenaries — they play in Germany, France, Switzerland and elsewhere — to a leading tournament is worthy.

But second to him in the African poll was Japhet N'doram, of Chad, whose goals helped Nantes beat Paris Saint-Germain to the French title. Then came Finidi George, of Nigeria, whose intelligent play for Ajax earned three medals — the Dutch league and cup and the European Cup. And in that poll, remember, was Tony Yeboah, of Ghana and Leeds United, who regularly shoots the goal of the month in England.

For the European poll, run by *France Football* magazine, which broke 40 years of tradition to allow journalists from 50 countries to choose non-Europeans, Weah finished ahead of Jürgen Klinsmann and Jari Litmanen. Last night, of course, Weah was deemed superior to everyone. All those people — administrators in Africa, journalists in Europe, coaches everywhere — cannot be wrong. But maybe they forgot April 19. Maybe they forgave.



Weah's muscular skills have earned him awards and recognition on two continents

## British heavyweight trio plans rise to top of the form

By SRIRAMAKRISHNA  
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH interest in the world heavyweight championship should be sustained well into the next century.

Frank Warren, the London promoter, has contracts with three young heavyweights, Wayne Llewellyn (Deptford), Danny Williams (Brixton) and Pele Reid (Sheffield). All three are in the mould of modern heavyweights, standing around 6ft 3in and weighing 16½ stone, and are

being tipped for places in the top ten within the next two years.

With Warren's strong connections with Don King, the promoter of Mike Tyson, the three should have a good chance of challenging for the world title if they achieve their expected ranking.

Llewellyn, 21, has had 12 contests and won all inside the distance. He spent a year in the United States working alongside established heavyweights, including Riddick Bowe, and expects to challenge soon

Welch, of Shoreham, for the British and Commonwealth titles after two or three more contests. Williams, 21, has had only two contests and Reid, 22, a former world kick-boxing champion, just one.

Introducing them yesterday as members of his 11-strong "Class of '96", Warren said: "The two young ones coming through, Danny Williams and Pele Reid, are both quality heavyweights. I would put Williams in with Frans Botha (the International Boxing Federation champion) to-

morrow. Reid, being a kick-boxer, is a very tough customer."

They have a really good opportunity with the King connection to get world title fights. They've got two hard years to learn their craft. They have to get 20 or so fights under their belt and we'll see how we go from there. When Lennox Lewis and Frank Bruno have retired, these guys will be very much up there."

Billy McGuigan, the former world featherweight champion, was particularly impressed with Wil-

liams. "He can box, hit and move and has a sound chin," McGuigan said. "He looked really impressive stopping his two opponents. He could go all the way."

Frank Bruno, who defends his World Boxing Council title against Mike Tyson on March 16 in Las Vegas, flies to Tenerife later this week to start training at the camp of Nigel Benn, who will be involved in his own super-middleweight defence, against Thulane Malunga, of South Africa, at Newcastle on March 2.

## Persson tables qualifying intent

JORGEN PERSSON, the former world champion, heads a high-quality field for the Olympic table tennis qualifying tournament, which starts at the Nyker Arena in Manchester tomorrow (Richard Eaton writes). Persson was a member of three world-title-winning Sweden teams as well as being European champion.

Among those representing the 35 competing nations will be Damien Eliot, of France, who won the English Open title in Cleveland last year, and Mirjam Hoorn, of Holland, who won the same title in Birmingham four years ago. Britain will be represented by Matthew Syed, Lisa Lomas, Andrea Holt and Alison Broe.

### Davidson call

Rugby league: Warrington have signed Les Davidson, 33, the former Australia forward, as a temporary replacement on the overseas quota for Dave King, the prop forward, who has a broken wrist. Davidson had his first spell at the club eight years ago and is available in the short term, even though he is tied to the Australian Super League.

### Allott in attack

Cricket: New Zealand have given Geoff Allott and Robert Kennedy the chance to form an experimental fast-bowling attack with the recalled Kerry Walmsley in the first Test match against Zimbabwe at Hamilton next week. Greg Lovridge, a leg spinner, is also called up for the first time.

NEW ZEALAND (from): G. Allott, N. J. Clark, C. L. Cram, S. R. Fleming, L. G. Gifford, K. M. Grant, D. Lovidge, R. C. Parsons, D. N. Reid, C. Spearman, R. G. Tweed, K. J. Walmsley, N. A. Young.

### Foster's title

Racket: Harry Foster, the favourite, won the Peel Hunt British under-21 championship, beating the uncrowned Chris Charlton 15-9, 15-3, 15-7. Charlton was in pain after a mishit ball struck him on the ear during the first game.

Waiting

LEICESTER

### SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT  
This was a tricky hand in the play from the first weekend of the new BBL Premier League season.

Dealer North East - West vulnerable IMPs

N	+Q983
W	+Q852
E	+Q833
S	+1057

Contract: Seven Hearts by South. Lead: Ten of Diamonds

North usually opened 2 NT and after North - South found their heart fit it was just a question of how enthusiastic they became. Five tables settled for Six Hearts but three tables advanced to Seven Hearts, twice by North and once by South.

Declarer has 11 tricks on top — two spades, four hearts, three diamonds and two clubs. Against a red-suit lead declarer can try to get two black-suit ruffs in one hand or the other. However, I think that the best line is to draw trumps. If trumps are 4-4, declarer takes two spade finesses. If trumps are 3-2, which black suit should declarer try first?

It is best to continue with ace, king, and a club ruff. If that does not bring down the queen, declarer falls back on his final chance, playing ace and king of spades. If the queen does not appear, the percentage play is to play a third round of spades and take

the ruffing finesse. The reason why it is better to try clubs first is that there is no ruffing finesse available in that suit — playing spades first effectively wastes the last resort of the ruffing finesse.

The only declarer to play from the South hand received a spade lead through the A K 10. He could have still drawn three rounds of trumps and played as suggested above but somehow or other he muddled it and went one down.

□ The 1996 Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship will be played at The White House Hotel, Regent's Park, London, on January 24, 25 and 26. Tickets are available from The Macallan Box Office, 31 Queens Road, Mortlake, London SW14 8PH. Information: 0181-878 5844.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

### WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- a. Old Man's Beard
- b. A sign-post
- c. A picture of the Virgin

- MULLOCK
- a. Nonsense
- b. A fish
- c. To court

- HODEGETRIA
- a. Filipina maid
- b. A type of eagle
- c. The Korean alphabet

- MOFFIE
- a. Toffee meringue pudding
- b. A cat
- c. An effeminate man

Answers on page 42

### KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Fine defence

The Hastings Premier tournament produced an impressive number of fine fighting games. Amongst them was this defensive effort by Grandmaster Jon Speelman against the early leader Stuart Conquest.

Speelman overcame Conquest's initial efforts at aggression and by sacrificing two knights for a rook he eventually broke the back of White's resistance.

White: Stuart Conquest  
Black: Jonathan Speelman  
Hastings Premier, January 1996

Caro-Kann Defence

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BY JULIAN MISCAT

THE inaugural Dubai World Cup may be drizzling with financial incentive but never before has any horse race attracted the quality of runners queuing up for the \$4 million prize, which will be staged over ten furlongs on dirt at Nad Al Sheba racecourse on March 27.

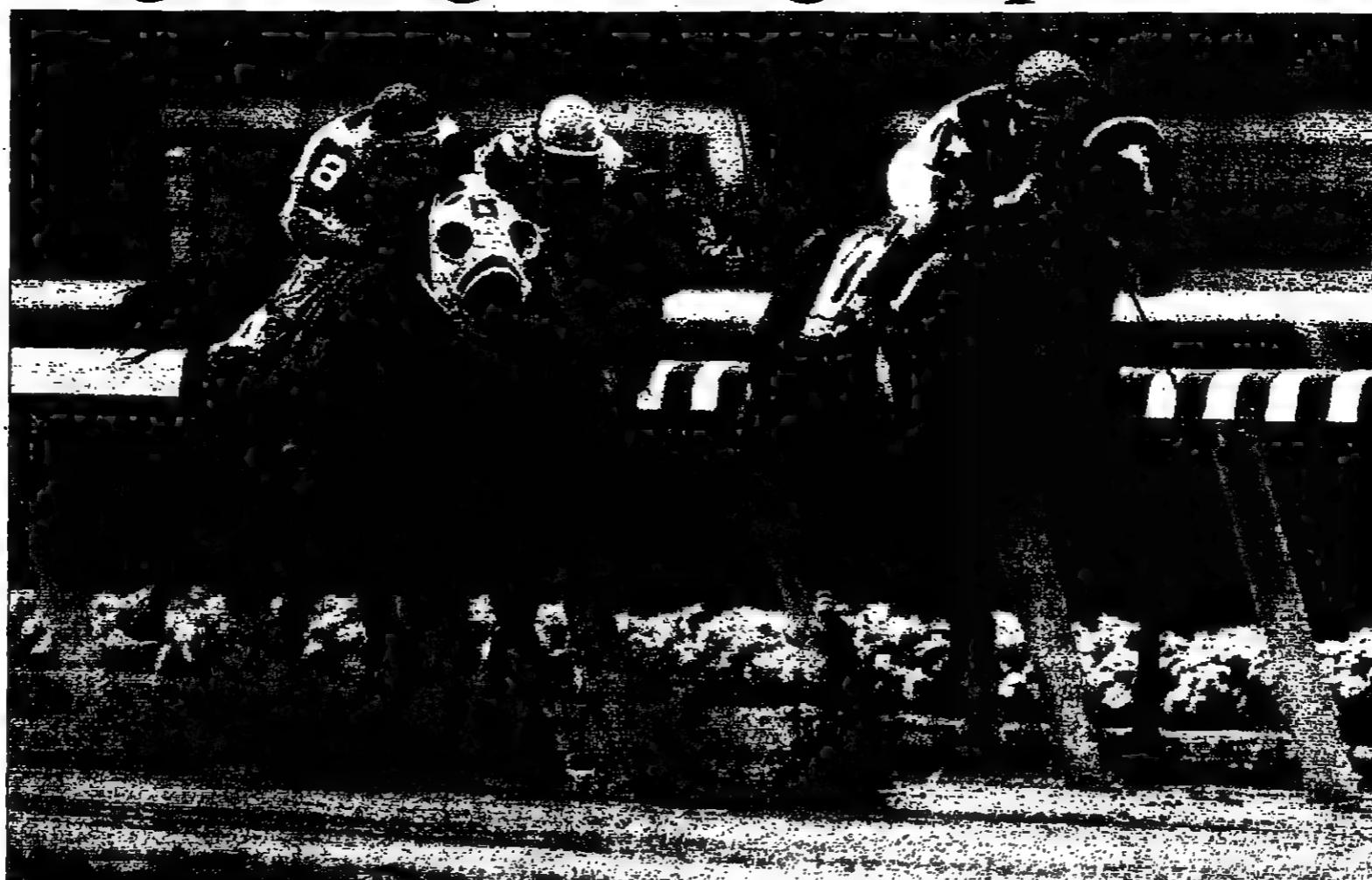
Europe has been allocated three places in an international field of 14. Freedom Cry, Pennekamp and Pentire, selected from 16 entrants by a panel of handicappers, comprise the highest-rated older horses kept in training. Celtic Swing was nominated at the second entry stage last week

Nap: ROBELLION  
(2.30 Lingfield Park)  
Next best: Master Orchestra  
(2.15 Leicester)

by his owner, Peter Savill, but the four-year-old has failed to make the provisional field. He is Europe's first reserve.

Pride of place, however, goes to Cigar, who is expected to front the American challenge. The winter of his last 12 starts, ten of them in 1995, Cigar's place in the field has yet to be confirmed. Three American trackraces have dangled the carrots of a \$3 million bonus in an effort to keep Cigar airborne.

As yet, however, the bonus is not on the table. The tracks concerned are struggling to raise a sponsor and failure to make good their pledge would increase the chances of Cigar's participation. "Whether or not



Cigar, a convincing winner of the Breeders' Cup Classic at Belmont Park, heads the American challenge for the Dubai World Cup

the bonus is available will have a bearing on the final decision," a spokesman said.

Freedom Cry and Pennekamp, both trained by André Fabre at Chantilly, are definite runners. Pennekamp, owned by Sheikh Mohammed, said: "He is going well and the plan is for him to have a prep

med, to travel to Dubai on January 20, more than two months before the race, and Fabre will be there to supervise his training programme. The 2,000 Guineas winner, who has not run since injuring himself in Lamontarria's Der-

by at Epsom, is the mount of Thierry Jarnet.

"Pennekamp has been cantering for six weeks now," Anthony Stroud, racing manager to Sheikh Mohammed, said. "He is going well and the plan is for him to have a prep

race in Dubai three weeks beforehand, hopefully over a mile or nine furlongs. After the race he will go back to France with Fabre and race from his stable through the season."

Daniel Wildenstein, who

because he can handle any type of ground. He has been galloping better than ever on dirt. Fabre says the horse is made of steel and he, too, is sure Freedom Cry will run a big race. We are very much looking forward to it."

Goff Wragg, who trains Pentire at Newmarket, is to consult the colt's connections before committing the four-year-old to the Dubai event. "We wanted to see if Pentire was given a place in the line-up before we talked about having a go. Obviously, he has never raced on dirt but I wouldn't have thought the surface would be a problem," Wragg said.

The European contingent will face stiff opposition from Dubai's Godolphin stable. Its four representatives are Anous Mirabilis, Ceazanne, Moonshell and Halling. Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, said all four horses would have prep races in February and early March.

"Ceazanne and Moonshell have been off with leg injuries so we'll see how they progress," Crisford said.

Halling is in good shape and Anous Mirabilis has settled down well since he arrived late last year. We do have some reserves just in case we have to change our plans, but all four are intended runners at this stage," Lanfranco Dettori will have the choice of mounts.

It would mean a lot to Sheikh Mohammed, the inspiration behind Godolphin, to keep the prize at home. Whatever the outcome, the sheikh can reflect that his \$4 million challenge has attracted the best horses from five continents, including Mahogany, the winner of ten group one

races in Australia.

**Rivals put pressure on Cardiff position**

BY A CORRESPONDENT

SHEFFIELD Steelers and Nottingham Panthers, having shared a 3-3 draw in their British ice hockey league encounter on Saturday, went on to record comfortable victories on Sunday, over Fife Flyers and Basingstoke Bison respectively, thereby maintaining pressure on Cardiff Devils, the leaders.

Sheffield were indebted to Tony Hand, Nicky Chin and Ron Shadrack, who each scored twice in a 9-1 victory. Andy Samuel providing the late consolation for the Scottish visitors.

Injuries deprived Nottingham of the services of Graham Waghorn, Darren Durde and Simon Hunt, but Mike Blaizell, their player-coach, provided the required inspiration, scoring twice in each of the first two periods as his side emerged 5-3 winners. Kevin Conway scored twice in three minutes to reduce the arrears but the home side's two-goal advantage was never breached.

Durham Wasps took sole possession of fourth with a 4-0 away win against Humber-side Hawks in a game in which both teams were missing influential players. The only goal of the first two periods was scored by Janne Seva, a recent Durham recruit from Finland, but Kip Noble (twice) and Kim Isel scored in the first ten minutes of the final period to settle the contest.

Newcastle remain adrift at the foot of the table, despite strengthening their side with the much-travelled Tim Salmon. He scored a goal, and another recent acquisition, Scott Morrison, collected a hat-trick in their 13-7 home defeat by Milton Keynes Kings. Scott Young, playing in his second game since joining Milton Keynes from Humber-side, was in outstanding form for his new club, contributing five goals and two assists.

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GOING: GOOD (CHASE COURSE); SOFT, WITH HEAVY PATCHES (HURDLES) (SIS)	
12.45 AROUND THE GALE	THUNDERER
1.15 GOLDEN TORQUE	2.15 Master Orchestra
1.45 ANTICLIMAX	2.15 Calliope Bay
	3.15 Storm Drum
	3.45 ALNSI SOIT II (nap)

12.45 NOMAD NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: E3,171; 2m) (16 runners)	
1. 21-50 AROUND THE GALE (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5	M. Dwyer
2. BLACK ICE DAY (5) (M) The Denning Racing Club 5-11-5	J. R. Morris
3. COUNT OF FLAMERS (5) (M) S. Morris 5-11-5	J. R. Morris
4. GOLDEN TORQUE (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5	A. S. Smith
5. GOLDEN TURK (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5	L. Harvey
6. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	S. Keeney
7. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	W. Marshall
8. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	J. Hayes
9. MASTER PANGLOSS (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	S. McHugh
10. MOUL BOY (2) (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	W. Worthington
11. SUPREME GENERATION (5) (M) The Denning Racing Club 5-11-5	J. Hayes
12. VICTORY STAR (5) (M) J. Hayes 5-11-5	L. Harvey
13. WINDY THE WAY (5) (M) J. Hayes 5-11-5	P. Hicks
14. WINDY THE WAY (5) (M) J. Hayes 5-11-5	J. Lester
15. WINDY THE WAY (5) (M) J. Hayes 5-11-5	C. L. Lewis
16. WINDY THE WAY (5) (M) J. Hayes 5-11-5	D. Hayes
BETTING: 7-4 Around The Gale, 3-1 Anticlimax, 6-1 Golden Torque, 10-1 Thunderer, 12-1 Gold.	1. 21-50 GOLD MARQUIS 5-11-2
	2. 21-50 Golden Torque, 2-5 Anticlimax, 10-1 Thunderer, 12-1 Gold.

1.15 NOMAD NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: E3,171; 2m) (16 runners)	
1. ADALAN HOOD 315F (M) M. Morris 5-11-5	A. S. Smith
2. D. GADSDEN 24 (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5	D. Gadsden
3. GOLDEN TURK 24 (The Denning Racing Club 5-11-5)	R. Beale
4. GOLDEN TURK (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5	G. Bradley
5. GOLDEN TURK (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5	H. Marshall
6. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	J. Hayes
7. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	S. McHugh
8. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	W. Marshall
9. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	J. Hayes
10. INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5	L. Harvey
11. INDIAN SUMMIT 228 (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	P. Hicks
12. INDIAN SUMMIT 228 (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	J. Hayes
13. INDIAN SUMMIT 228 (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	P. Hicks
14. INDIAN SUMMIT 228 (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	J. Hayes
15. INDIAN SUMMIT 228 (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	S. McHugh
16. INDIAN SUMMIT 228 (M) M. Chapman 5-11-5	D. Hayes
BETTING: 2-1 Indian Summit, 5-1 Golden Turk, 1-1 Independence, 8-1 Gold.	1. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE DIVISION
	2. 21-50 Golden Turk, 3-1 Indian Summit, 8-1 Gold.

FORM FOCUS	
1. 21-50 AROUND THE GALE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	1. 21-50 AROUND THE GALE (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5
2. 21-50 GOLDEN TORQUE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	2. 21-50 GOLDEN TORQUE (5) (M) D. Gadsden 5-11-5
3. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	3. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
4. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	4. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
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18. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	18. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
19. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	19. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
20. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	20. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
21. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	21. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
22. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m). Good to soft ground, but not ideal for the horse.	22. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE (5) (M) P. J. Hayes 5-11-5
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27. 21-50 INDEPENDENCE about 50 ft to the left in novice	



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# For excitement, the brains beat the brawn

**W**ill computers stop us thinking for ourselves, was one of the questions that kicked off a new season of *7th Brains Trust*. Nothing too difficult there for Jonathan Miller and the brainy bunch — a quick rail against the early use of calculators, a plea for poetry once again to be learnt by heart and we were on to the next. Do we know what love is? No, but they knew it. Wittenberg who did.

And so it was the some of the mightiest intellects in the land neatly avoided the burning question of the evening — will popular drama stop us thinking for ourselves? The answer, at least for those of us who caught the first episode of *Call Red* (TV) is — very possibly.

Having exhausted the Armed Forces and the emergency services as subject matter producers of popular drama are now left with filling the gaps — hence a series

about an air ambulance, where half the characters do the flying while the other half do the doctoring.

That, at least is the theory. In practice the members of this particular Air Medical Service team, based somewhere around the Solent, and all far too busy flirting with each other to get any real work done. The mortuary at King Alfred's hospital must echo to the sound of patients unzipping their body bags and walking out to look for some proper medical attention. "Damn it Sean, why didn't you spot the pulse?" Philip will bellow soon at the weekly "death and doughnuts" review meeting. "Sorry boss, I was too busy giving Alfie the glad-eye."

With sexual chemistry the top priority, casting has been done on the Robson Green principle — giving the best parts to the actors with the nice eyes. "Right darlings, we'll have piercing blues,

soft greys and extra long lashes over here please, the rest of you ... we'll let you know. You with the sky — stay behind for a second, I might have something for you in *Brunwell*."

All this meaningful eye contact, however, does have its dangers. Amid all the air traffic control jargon that fills the gaps between the medical jargon, there was much alarming talk of "sequentially blown pupils", presumably an occupational hazard for those fond of dilating in front of the opposite sex — along with cramp of the artfully arched eyebrow.

**B**ut for all its predictability — the urgent music, the urgent firings — *Call Red* made an encouraging start, despite an occasional tendency to look like an airborne version of *Howard's Way*. The basic premise was neatly established, as was the impre-

## REVIEW



Matthew Bond

bly good-looking cast of medics and flyers. The next few weeks will see if they can manage anything a little more demanding. To borrow from its own software jargon — *Chances of Survivability?* Over 50 per cent.

By contrast the chances of survivability for Verhoeven's career are said to be slim — and falling. After enjoying huge popular success with *RoboCop*, *Total*

*Recall* and *Basic Instinct*, the Dutch film director has run into a spot of bother with *Showgirls*, a film dubbed by his detractors as a go-go girl too far.

In recent months *Omnibus* (BBC) has won a deserved reputation for outrageous pluggery, so a spot of career rehabilitation made a nice change — even if it was timed to coincide with the British release of *Showgirls*. Did it succeed? Well, up to a point.

Certainly, David Thompson's film, subtitled *From Holland to Hollywood*, established that Verhoeven has a track record as a film-maker for showing things as they are. In Verhoeven's world, if a woman crosses her legs while not wearing underwear, then a camera should be looking up her skirt. "I thought when we were shooting the scene that it might be fun."

A distinguished cast of actors

and writers, including the

Guinness-drinking Rutger Hauer

and Joe Eszterhas, who wrote the screenplay for *Basic Instinct*, were assembled to convince us that Verhoeven's approach was a legitimate one. Sadly, Sharon Stone, the world's best-known natural blonde, was not available for comment.

**T**hompson, however, also

provided ammunition for those who believe that the mathematics graduate from Leiden has become a dirty old man, with some toe-curling footage of the director at work on the set of *Showgirls*. Surrounded by beautiful young women rehearsing their writhings and wriggles, our grinning, denim-shirted Lothario looked as though he had died and gone to heaven. As the song says: "If we breed humans to be half the current size, we'd have twice as much space each and eight times as much food to eat" quite good spectator sport it proved too. Mind you, I could have done with action replays of some of the finer points.

tive... thinking. With Nietzsche and Goethe whizzing past at head height it is tempting to mock this late-night revival of a show last seen in the early 1960s. Indeed with A.S. Byatt holding forth about the glee she experiences "every time" she reads *King Lear*, the temptation is almost irresistible.

In its new form the programme appears to have shifted the emphasis somewhat. No longer is it a case of humbly asking better minds than ours to do our thinking for us; instead this is thinking as a spectator sport. And with Jonathan Miller on his best behaviour and Edward de Bono performing his lateral party tricks ("if we breed humans to be half the current size, we'd have twice as much space each and eight times as much food to eat") quite good spectator sport it proved too. Mind you, I could have done with action replays of some of the finer points.

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (2715)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast (news) (26195805)
- 9.10 Kiteay (s) (22341) 10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (904787)
- 10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (489828)
- 10.30 Good Morning! Anne and Nick (s) (16248)
- 12.00 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (5625803) 12.00 Pebble Mill (s) (929215) 12.50 Regional News and weather (1345170)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) (68808)
- 1.30 Neighbours: Helen's wedding day turns into a day of revelations. Meanwhile, a confrontation with Rhonda is long overdue (Ceefax) (s) (64520995) 1.50 Banacek (2035441)
- 3.05 Timelkeepers in the Box (s) (5805625)
- 3.30 Ants ... In ... Your ... Plant (s) (1264995) 3.50 Ants ... In ... Your ... Plant (s) (266183)
- 4.35 NEWS Run The Risk: Buster Devore presents the manic children's game show (Ceefax) (s) (53)
- 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (481964) 5.10 The Demon Headmaster (3/6) (Ceefax) (s) (7880538)
- 5.25 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (49277) NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.30 Inside Ulster
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (488)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazines (441) NORTHERN IRELAND: 6.30 Neighbours
- 7.00 Holiday: Jill Dando visits Brazil: Sian Gohil visits the Italian resort of Postiano; Paul Gopnik takes a skiing trip to Canada; and John Pittman spends a weekend at the Burghley Horse Trials (Ceefax) (s) (6828)
- 7.30 EastEnders (Ceefax) (s) (825)
- 8.00 Great Ormond Street: A team from Intensive Care race to Helens Hemiplegic wife five-week-old Michael as he is having difficulty breathing (Ceefax) (s) (2246)



Keith and Gauft as surrogate parents (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Next of Kin: Sit-com with Penelope Keith and William Gauft (Ceefax) (s) (4063)
- 8.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) global news and weather (74242)
- 9.30 Men Behaving Badly: The first stink of the ladder sit-com starring Martin Clunes as Neil Morrisey (f) (Ceefax) (68334) WALES: 9.30 Welsh Sports Personality (s) (907900) 11.30 The Year 10.45 THX Files 11.30 The Gulf War 12.30-2.00am FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987)
- 10.00 The X File: Humbug (803525)
- 10.45 THE GULF WAR: Thunder and Lightning (24) (Ceefax) (69683) NORTHERN IRELAND: 10.45 On All 11.30 The Gulf War: Thunder and Lightning 12.35-2.35am FILM: The Night They Raided Minsk (198)
- 11.45 FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987) starring Meredith Baxter Birney, David Birney, Ray Baker and Mike Preston. A husband and wife in Vietnam for ten years suddenly disappears. Directed by Rod Holcomb (Ceefax) (60538)
- 1.15 Weather (4355890)

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA As London except: 12.05 Gardens Without Borders (6833009) 1.25 Home and Away (7723147) 1.30 The Chasers (s) (907900) 1.45-2.00 Country Practice (7658628) 2.05-2.30 Granada Tonight (5623281) 2.30-2.50 The Year 10.45-11.00 FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987)

- CENTRAL As London except: 9.04-9.30 Look and See (2756529) 9.30-10.00 Shortland Street (5622974) 10.00-10.30 Central News and Weather (5623281) 10.30-11.00 The Year 10.45-11.00 FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987)

- GRANADA As London except: 12.05-12.30 Shortland Street (5622974) 1.25 Look and See (2756529) 1.30 Shortland Street (5622974) 1.30-1.45 Granada Tonight (5623281) 1.45-2.00 Granada Tonight (5623281) 2.05-2.30 Granada Tonight (5623281) 2.30-2.50 The Year 10.45-11.00 FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987)

- HWT WEST As London except: 9.10-9.30 Look and See (2756529) 9.30-10.00 Shortland Street (5622974) 1.25 Look and See (2756529) 1.30 Shortland Street (5622974) 1.30-1.45 Granada Tonight (5623281) 1.45-2.00 Granada Tonight (5623281) 2.05-2.30 Granada Tonight (5623281) 2.30-2.50 The Year 10.45-11.00 FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987)

- MERIDIAN As London except: 9.05-9.30 Blend-A-Mix (6465248) 9.30-10.00 Home and Away (7723147) 1.25-1.45 Granada Tonight (5623281) 1.45-2.00 Meridian (s) (907900) 1.45-2.00 The Year 10.45-11.00 FILM: The Long Journey Home (1987)

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- SKY MOVIES

- Start 7.00 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.00 Film One To One (2715) 9.30 Stand Up, Be Fit (5623284) 9.45-10.00 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.00-10.30 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.30-11.00 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.00-11.30 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.30-12.00 The Big Breakfast (7440) 12.00-12.30 The Big Breakfast (7440) 12.30-12.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 12.55-1.00 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.00-1.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.15-1.30 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.30-1.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.45-1.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.55-1.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.65-1.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.75-1.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.85-1.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 1.95-2.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.05-2.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.15-2.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.25-2.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.35-2.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.45-2.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.55-2.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.65-2.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.75-2.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.85-2.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 2.95-3.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.05-3.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.15-3.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.25-3.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.35-3.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.45-3.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.55-3.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.65-3.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.75-3.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.85-3.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 3.95-4.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.05-4.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.15-4.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.25-4.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.35-4.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.45-4.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.55-4.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.65-4.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.75-4.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.85-4.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 4.95-5.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.05-5.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.15-5.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.25-5.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.35-5.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.45-5.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.55-5.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.65-5.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.75-5.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.85-5.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 5.95-6.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.05-6.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.15-6.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.25-6.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.35-6.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.45-6.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.55-6.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.65-6.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.75-6.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.85-6.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 6.95-7.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.05-7.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.15-7.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.25-7.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.35-7.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.45-7.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.55-7.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.65-7.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.75-7.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.85-7.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 7.95-8.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.05-8.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.15-8.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.25-8.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.35-8.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.45-8.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.55-8.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.65-8.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.75-8.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.85-8.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 8.95-9.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.05-9.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.15-9.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.25-9.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.35-9.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.45-9.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.55-9.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.65-9.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.75-9.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.85-9.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 9.95-10.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.05-10.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.15-10.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.25-10.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.35-10.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.45-10.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.55-10.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.65-10.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.75-10.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.85-10.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 10.95-11.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.05-11.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.15-11.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.25-11.35 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.35-11.45 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.45-11.55 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.55-11.65 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.65-11.75 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.75-11.85 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.85-11.95 The Big Breakfast (7440) 11.95-12.05 The Big Breakfast (7440) 12.05-12.15 The Big Breakfast (7440) 12.15-12.25 The Big Breakfast (7440) 12.25-1

**GOLF 39**

FALDO SETTLES  
FOR SECOND BEST  
IN SAN DIEGO

# SPORT

TUESDAY JANUARY 9 1996

**AMERICAN FOOTBALL 42**

PACKERS TURN BACK  
CLOCK ON RUN-IN  
TO SUPER BOWL

Russell loses place as wicketkeeper

## England give Stewart the gloves again

FROM SIMON WILDE IN CAPE TOWN

JACK RUSSELL has been left out of England's team for the first of seven one-day internationals against South Africa here tomorrow, despite his excellent all-round form in the Test series that ended last week. The gauntlets have returned to Alec Stewart in a side that Raymond Illingworth, the England manager, described as the strongest that could have been picked in the circumstances.

The decision to overlook Russell, who last played a limited-overs game for England five years ago, was taken in the interests of the balance of the side, as was that to select only five specialist batsmen, with Robin Smith giving way to Neil Fairbrother. The lower middle order is filled by three all-rounders. White, Reeve and Neil Smith, who, with Watkinson omitted and Richard Illingworth injured, plays his first match for England as the sole specialist spin bowler.

With seven bowlers to share 50 overs and everyone capable of making runs, the result is that England possess the kind of depth of resources that enabled them to do so well during the last World Cup. It is a versatility that South Africa, for one, are keen to emulate. England's last place is filled by Gough, who bowled impressively in his first match for a month on Saturday and was preferred to DeFreitas.

Stewart's long-standing role as opening batsman and wicketkeeper in one-day cricket has been rarely contentious but he has recently looked so vulnerable with the bat that it may not survive the series. England, like South Africa, view these matches primarily as preparation for the World Cup and Russell, whose average was only slightly inferior to Stewart in the Tests (28.00 compared to 29.37), may yet

find himself the first-choice wicketkeeper come the start of that tournament in March 14.

For two teams to meet seven times in 13 days is unprecedented even in the whistle-stop world of one-day cricket. Such a schedule, at venues all over South Africa, will surely test the stamina and commitment of those who play every game, although England expect to give a game to all 17 members of their reshuffled party.

England originally wanted five matches but accepted seven in exchange for them being held back until after the

their specialist wicketkeeper than England. David Richardson's barting is, like Russell's, not suited to the one-day pyrotechnics expected of those positioned from No 6 to No 8 and so he, McMillan and Snell may all at times be used high in the order to take advantage of the fielding restrictions in force during the first 15 overs of an innings, with the natural strokemakers held back until the later stages.

It is a strategy England would be wise to look at closely, although judging by the expression on Raymond Illingworth's face at the idea of Neil Smith opening the batting in a one-day match for England — as he does for Warwickshire — it is unlikely to be adopted in the near future.

Smith is not the only spinner who should make his debut today; so, too, should Paul Adams in front of an adoring home crowd. In his brief one-day career, Adams has proved economical and could have a key role to play in the World Cup on the short pitches of the Asian sub-continent.

The teams have met only four times before, twice during the World Cup in 1992 and twice in England two years later. England won all four matches, most famously the World Cup semi-final in Sydney when rain interrupted the game with South Africa requiring 22 runs from 13 balls, which the rule governing rain-breaks revised to 21 from one ball.

For this series, for which no extra days have been set aside to cater for rain, a new system has been introduced. Based on a method devised by a schoolboy from — as chance would have it — Cape Town, when it did rain yesterday, it is so complex that a computer is required to perform the recalculations and even Professor Stephen Hawking would struggle to explain it briefly. It should, though, eliminate the risk of further farce and may be used in the World Cup.

South Africa are expected to make more imaginative use of

the teams. Too often in the past, limited-overs matches have hindered England's preparations for overseas Test series, with all too predictable results.

That both sides are more concerned with testing their players than winning the series has not diminished the appetite of the South African public for the one-day game. Today's match, the first of four under floodlights, is sold out to Newlands' capacity of 23,000 and the United Cricket Board of South Africa anticipates that it will be a similar story at other grounds.

South Africa are expected to

make more imaginative use of

Lynch gets to grips with a Saracens ball after the announcement that he is to join the club on a three-year contract. Photograph: Tony White

## Saracens sign Lynch and chase Sella

BY DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL LYNCH, rugby union's world record points accumulator, is to join Saracens next season. The London club gleefully confirmed their capture of the former Australian captain yesterday and were even able to offer the captivating morsel that Philippe Sella, of France, could yet join them.

It is the most significant coup the unfashionable Saracens have achieved in their 120-year history. So often living in the shade of Harlequins and Wasps, the acquisition of Lynch on a three-year contract brings to the club a player of world stature, his achievements fresh in the minds of rugby supporters but also a competitor whose influence on his new colleagues will be huge.

The agreement has been made possible by the cash injection of Nigel Wray, the property businessman whose wealth has turned Saracens into a limited company. Yet even before Wray's £2.5 million contribution, announced in November, Saracens were talking to Lynch about the possibility of a move from Italy where he has played club rugby for Treviso for five seasons.

Their timing was perfect. Lynch, who retired from international rugby after winning his 72nd and last cap in Australia's defeat by England during the World Cup last June, had no firm plans after this season. "It was not a decision I took lightly, but I have always thought it would be lovely to play in London and the innovative ideas Saracens put forward tickled me," Lynch, 32, said. Since Lynch's business background is also in property development, the possibilities of an association with Wray are obvious.

It is hard to overemphasise the experience he will bring — though when he will bring it remains an issue. As matters stand, Lynch will have to serve a 60-day residential qualification and he is committed to Treviso until mid-

Seasons are still at Southgate next season. Wray spoke yesterday of playing rugby in a new arena, one better suited to the ambitions of a club seeking a place in Europe, either via a ground-sharing scheme or by developing a derelict stadium.

Lynch's international career began in 1984, when he also played in the Australia team to achieve a grand slam on tour in Britain and Ireland. It included a key role in the 1991 team that won the World Cup victory in England. Begged five years with Treviso, in Italy.

1982: Six Nations: Nick Farr-Jones = 10 caps of Ireland.

1986: Retired after Australia's World Cup quarter-final defeat in South Africa.

1988: Signs three-year contract with Saracens.

## FACTFILE

1984: Plays first of 72 Tests, against Fiji in Steve Kilday's three penalties in 16-3 win to begin run of 59 consecutive Test-winning appearances, a world record.

1986: Sets world record for penalties in a Test, 10 in a row.

1987: Sets world record for penalties in a World Cup, 11 in a row.

1988: Wins British and Irish Lions cap.

1989: Wins British and Irish Lions cap.

1990: Twelfth, Australian team of eight consecutive wins in a Test series.

1992: Six Nations: Nick Farr-Jones = 10 caps of Ireland.

1993: Retires after Australia's World Cup quarter-final defeat in South Africa.

1994: Signs three-year contract with Saracens.

assisting the club to attract the people of this town to come and watch rugby. We will have to play good rugby to attract them; and offer good facilities to look after them. I can also share with the players some of my knowledge, from a southern hemisphere and international perspective."

"There should be considerable commercial spin-off for Saracens who also see Lynch as a significant attraction for their junior members. It's important for the idea. Nigel has that there are good juniors at the club," Lynch said. It is also important to Saracens that they do not lose their place in the first division this season: Lynch watched their defeat by Wasps last Saturday which leaves them third from bottom.

"We are very keen to make Saracens one of the finest clubs in Europe," Mike Smith, their chief executive-designate, said. To that end, negotiations continue with Sella, the most capped player in the world, who has expressed his hope of playing a season in London.

## Clubs fight Uefa 'foreigners' rule

BY JOHN GOODBODY  
AND PETER BALL

MANCHESTER United will join other leading continental clubs in a meeting with Uefa next month to demand that they field as many European Union (EU) nationals as they wish in the three cup competitions. There is an implied threat that the clubs, which would have the backing of the European Court of Justice, could break away from European football's governing body, if it refuses to follow the ruling of the Bosman decision that the present Uefa regulations are illegal.

Maurice Watkins, a director and the solicitor of United, said yesterday: "We have never been able to play the team that won the championship in Europe so we are very concerned about the position."

Under Uefa's regulations, a club can only field three foreign players plus two "assimilated" players for European cup competitions. An assimilated player is one who has lived in the country for five

years or who has played in that club's youth team. In the ruling on Jean-Marc Bosman last month, the European Court reiterated the regulations of the 1987 Treaty of Rome, which emphasises the free movement of labour within the EU. No organisation or country can place a limit on the number of EU nationals appearing for clubs.

Uefa has refused to alter its regulations for this season's competitions, in which

**Weak bounces** 40

only Nottingham Forest survive of the European clubs. However, the FA Premier League, which will be meeting with the European Commission in Brussels on Thursday, has already changed its own regulations to comply with the Court's judgment.

Watkins said: "How Uefa has interpreted it is totally wrong. We tackled them on it pre-Bosman but they are still trying to

hold onto their system. I think Uefa should react to this decision in a considered manner. That would be helpful for everyone. We have the legal ruling and we have to abide by it."

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, was in Italy at the weekend to watch Milan play Sampdoria as part of *Gazzetta dello Sport's* centenary celebrations, amid rumours that he was interested in signing Zvominir Boban, Milan's midfield player, for a reported £4 million.

Ferguson discovered yesterday that he

would have 24 hours fewer to prepare for his side's FA Cup visit to Sunderland than anticipated. Sky has selected the game as its televised third round replay, and it has been moved forward to Tuesday, January 16. On the same night, Sheffield United and Arsenal meet to decide which club will host the BBC cameras in the fourth round, the BBC selecting Aston Villa's visit to Bramall Lane or Highbury for its live game on Sunday, January 28. Sky will show Queens Park Rangers' match with Chelsea or Newcastle the next night.

## Trainer guilty of mistaken identity

Julian Muscat on the strange affair of the interloper in the 2.15 at Southwell

other one. It would have been a 33-1 chance at least."

Not quite a pantomime horse, Loch Style had no chance of landing the 12-furlong Waterford Median Auction Maiden Stakes under the guise of Taniyar. Loch Style is a year younger, and only has enough stamina for races at around seven furlongs. As Ray Cochrane, who rode the horse, later told Hollinshead: "That horse wouldn't have stayed a mile in a horsebox."

Punters "in the know" could have made a killing: the real Taniyar was perceived as the sole danger to the favourite. Youngo, who duly romped to victory. Off-course book-

makers quickly acknowledged there was no sinister intent on Hollinshead's part. They treated all bets on Taniyar in the non-runner category. Those, like Marshall, who backed the horse at Southwell, were left licking their financial wounds.

"I can only apologise to punters who have had a few quid on," Hollinshead, a racehorse trainer for more than 40 years, said. "It was just an unfortunate error." He added that the confusion arose because the horses are of similar size and shape.

The Southwell stewards are to send a report of the incident to the Jockey Club, whose officials will decide whether



Hollinshead: no sinister intent

Hollinshead, 72, should sit before the disciplinary committee. William Nunneley, the stewards' secretary at Southwell, was as bemused as anyone. "The trainer was very honest. Thank God the horse involved didn't win."

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# ..plus the importance of diet: choose foods that will keep you young

## Antioxidants: the key to a long life?

### HOW NUTRITION AFFECTS AGEING

**W**hen the American chemist Linus Pauling, a double Nobel prizewinner, started taking large quantities of vitamin C, colleagues suspected he was turning a little strange. He lived to be 93.

Pang's habit is now shared by millions of people who start the day with a handful of pills. Is it just hypochondria, or will the pills help them to prolong their lives? Evidence of cancer, heart disease and brain deterioration is not complete, but what there is mostly encouraging.

Recently the focus has been on shift from vitamins to other substances in plants, known as phytochemicals or protective factors. There may be hundreds of such factors, many unidentified, which could be as important as vitamins in countering the processes that damage cells and lead to disease.

Quercetin, for example, a chalcone found in onions, tomatoes, berries, olive oil, red wine and tea. Dr Michael Hertog of the Dutch National Institute of Public Health, reported last year that quercetin and similar compounds could help to explain the large differences in heart disease between different countries.

Even the pioneering study of Dr Ancel Keys in the 1950s and 1960s, these differences provided the basis for common saturated fats. In Seven Countries Study, Dr Keys concluded that the difference in fat consumption that explained Mediterranean countries enjoyed such low rates of heart disease.

IT possible that a protective anti-age pill already exists — in the shape of soya bean.

A research from Britain, America and Japan suggests that eating a range of products can save women from breast and other cancers and protect DNA against damage by free radicals — one of the main reasons for physical deterioration that we call age.

Japanese are among the longest-living people in the world, and the reason may well be that they eat soya protein almost every meal. Consumption is about 30 times greater than in the UK.

Soya bean is packed with chemicals

Dr Hertog has looked again at the seven nations in the study and found that the amounts of quercetin and other similar compounds (known collectively as flavonoids) in their diets ranged from 0mg a day in Finland to 60mg a day in Japan. The more that was eaten, the lower the risk of dying of a heart attack.

So could the differences in heart disease be the result of the flavonoids as well as, or rather than, the fats? Epidemiological studies, again in Holland, lend some support. In

**'All forms of alcohol are equally effective in moderate doses, in reducing heart disease.'**

800 elderly Dutch men, the group who consumed most flavonoids were 60 per cent less likely to die of heart disease within five years than those who consumed least. In middle-aged men, the risk of stroke was reduced by the same amount.

According to Dr Hertog, 90 per cent of the variation in mortality rates in the Seven Nations Study could be accounted for by just three variables: smoking, saturated fat and flavonoids.

At the Institute of Food Research in Norwich, Dr

Gary Williamson is trying to discover how flavonoids and other protective factors work. "Without doubt they provide some benefit, but how much, and by what mechanism, we don't yet know," he says.

Dr Williamson identifies three different types of compound that may be important: the vitamins C and E and beta-carotene (which is converted into vitamin A in the body), the flavonoids, and the sulphur-containing compounds that are found in onions and brassicas. Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage and cauliflower are rich sources of this last group, which in animal studies have been shown to cut the risks of cancer.

Vitamins and protective factors are believed to work by quenching the activities of highly-reactive chemical species produced by the body's metabolism.

These so-called "free radicals" contain oxygen in an active form which can damage genetic material. Among their jobs is the destruction of bacteria, parasites and virus-infected cells, so they are certainly useful in fighting infections. But they can also damage healthy cells.

Professor Bruce Ames of the University of California at Berkeley, has estimated that the DNA in every cell in the body takes about 10,000 "hits" a day from oxygen free radicals. The DNA repair system is highly reliable and can put most of them right, but over time damage accumulates. In two-year-old rats there are about two million DNA lesions per cell, twice as many as in young rats.

Mutations tend to accumulate with age, and — so the theory goes — the process may be speeded up or slowed down by diet or behaviour. Smoking increases the rate of oxidation damage, and depletes the natural defences. But eating foods high in antioxidants, such as vitamins C and E, beta-carotene, selenium or the phytochemicals — reduces the risk of damage.

The process of oxidative damage underlies many of the changes that take place as we age. In rats, a severely restricted diet prolongs life, a change that Professor Ames attributes to reduced oxidative damage.

He has found that rats raised on a barely adequate diet have less oxidised protein and fewer DNA lesions.

A possible explanation may be that when there is little food available, rats delay sexual maturity and devote more of their resources to the maintenance of their body. This could explain why they seem to show lower levels of cell damage, but near-starvation is not a course that could be recommended, or would be followed, by human beings.

Some physicians believe that the health effects of red

wine may be due to protective factors derived from the grapes from which they are made. Experiments have shown that the phenols found in wine can limit the oxidation of the low-density lipoprotein in the bloodstream, which would have the effect of slowing the blocking of the arteries. But the evidence seems to be that all forms of alcohol are equally effective in moderate doses in reducing heart disease.

"There's no doubt that our main dietary problem is lack of antioxidants," Dr Anne Walker, senior lecturer in human nutrition at Reading University, says. "If we could rectify this and get people to increase their intake of fruit and vegetables to five servings per day, we would see a great reduction in chronic disease."

The only practical way to increase antioxidants even further is to take vitamin supplements. While many doctors dismiss such pills as just a way of producing expensive urine, trials show overdoses of vitamins can help. In a group of 22,000 American doctors, those with minor signs of

RONALD GRANT



To prevent dramatic facelifts like that in Terry Gilliam's film *Brazil*, doctors recommend a diet rich in vitamins and phytochemicals

heart disease who took 50mg of beta-carotene every two days — ten times the recommended level — had 50 per cent fewer heart attacks.

Not all trials, it should be said, show similarly good results, but for those who are persuaded, the only way to achieve these high levels of antioxidants is by taking vitamin supplements.

So far, there are no pills on the market containing phytochemicals, though they may be coming.

NIGEL HAWKES

## A fresh diet for a healthy body

### WHICH FOODS TO EAT

It used to be so simple. "A little of what you fancy," said granny accurately, as it turned out, while medical textbooks merely recommended "a balanced varied diet". Today, the science of life which decide how long you'll live, environmental factors — of which eating is probably the most important — has as much impact as our inheritance. And, unlike our genes, nutrition is something you can control.

The healthiest diet is probably a Mediterranean one: mass of fruit and vegetables, olive oil, fish and bread, laced down with plenty of water.

Fish is an important word until a carrot is picked and torn before being boiled for 20 minutes; by the time it gets nearer body its high load of enhancing antioxidants will be practically destroyed. In contrast, a carrot which is sliced and frozen on the same night, lightly cooked three months later, will probably have most of its antioxidants left.

Phytotherapy involves using foods as a form of medicine. Day foods contain chemicals

— apart from antioxidants — which protect against age-related diseases. Cheese, fish, and nuts, for example, contain high levels of calcium which protects against osteoporosis. More than 300 foods contain a type of oestrogen which is thought to help to prevent breast and prostate cancers and heart disease. High-fibre foods such as vegetables and wholegrains also help to protect against several types of cancer, as do foods rich in selenium (nuts, tuna, liver, zinc, oysters, crabmeat, pumpkin seeds) and magnesium (nuts, yeast and brown rice).

Your risk of heart disease and colon cancer can be reduced by taking a small daily dose of aspirin. Alternatively, you can find a natural aspirin-like compound in blueberries, cherries, currants, currant powder and dried dates. Senile dementia may be prevented by a diet rich in B vitamins (yeast, meat, eggs) while late-onset diabetes can usually be controlled by a diet low in sugar and high in fibre.

Men who want to keep their sperm agile and plentiful can help by eating lots of vitamin C-rich foods (all fruit and vegetables). Heart disease is largely a diet-related problem: a low-fat, high-fibre diet will cut the risk dramatically.

Again there is no need to memorise each individual food component: as with antioxidants, it is enough simply to eat a Mediterranean-type

diet, with a few additions to take account of individual susceptibility.

If, for example, you are small, frail and female, you may do well to eat extra dairy products in order to boost your level of calcium.

It is also worth remembering that enjoying food is important. Some experts even think the health benefits from the release of endorphins — brain chemicals which make you feel happy — which comes

from eating an occasional nice-but-naughty snack may outweigh the bad effect of the sugar-laden fat in the treat itself.

So the simple rules for eating are: eat less; eat fresh; eat roughage; eat less fat, less sugar and more fish and more grains. Plus, of course, eat a little of what you fancy. That way, with a little luck, you too will live to be as old as granny.

RITA CARTER

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### SECRETS OF SOYA

blood and help to keep sugar levels on an even keel. This guards against the problems of excessive weight gain and age-related diabetes.

Soya appears to be the nearest thing we have to an anti-cancer food. One chemical found in the bean — a molecule that inhibits an enzyme which breaks down certain proteins — has been heralded by some US researchers

as "a universal cancer preventative agent". Another blocks an enzyme which turns on the genes which cancerous cells use to create new blood vessels to feed them. Hence, it effectively nips potential tumours in the bud.

Breast cancer has been found to be reduced by about 65 per cent in people who eat large quantities of soya. This cancer is particularly sensitive to the

effects of oestrogen, which speeds up its development.

Collaborative research between Manchester and Hong Kong universities has identified chemicals in soya bean which resemble oestrogen — but instead of stimulating hormone-sensitive cancers these chemicals inhibit them.

It is believed that the plant-derived hormone is chemically similar enough to the sort produced in the body to latch on to the oestrogen receptors in the

breast tissue, blocking off the body's own hormone. However, these chemicals are not similar enough to encourage cell division, so they have a protective effect.

The natural oestrogen in soya also gives protection against prostate cancer, and, probably, ovarian and womb cancer, too.

To benefit from the anti-ageing effects of soya it is important to eat the protein. This is found in tofu, textured soya protein, soya flour, soya milk, and, of course, the whole bean. Unfortunately, soy sauce and soybean oil contain very few of the magic ingredients.

RITA CARTER

## Food that leaves you full of beans

### SECRETS OF SOYA

which are thought to help to prevent disease. The protein in it discourages, and may even help to reverse, cardiovascular disease by reducing the levels of "bad" cholesterol (the sort that clogs the arteries) while boosting levels of the "good" sort.

It also conserves calcium, unlike the protein from meat, helping to prevent osteoporosis, a problem which often occurs in older women.

Two amino-acids in soya — glycine and arginine — reduce insulin in the

blood and help to keep sugar levels on an even keel. This guards against the problems of excessive weight gain and age-related diabetes.

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**Phenylbutyl nitrode**  
This is a molecule which halts destructive free radicals in their tracks. Research has shown that it helps to protect against strokes and age-related brain deterioration. It is hoped that PBN may provide a treatment for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

**Dihydroepiandrosterone**  
This is a hormone which peaks at the age of 30 then decreases with age. In laboratory animals it appears to prevent obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and to combat age-related immune function disorders.

**Superoxide dismutase**  
This is a protein which protects cell walls from damage by oxidation. It is currently being tested by surgeons to see if it can reduce damage done by air to exposed body tissues during lengthy operations.

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**Page 8**

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Your choice of foods is important in looking young

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## Architect gets back to the drawing board

A new drug is reducing the severe pain of bone cancer

**P**resident Mitterrand died after a prolonged battle against cancer of the prostate. In many Western countries, this is already the second most common cancer to cause death in men — and a recent report suggested that, in the next 20 years, its incidence would double.

In Mitterrand's case, as usually happens with cancer of the prostate, the tumour spread to his bones. The pain from cancer of the bone in these cases is usually treated initially with hormonal therapy and/or direct radiotherapy, which shrivels the tumours. In the past, the pain has often proved intractable once radiotherapy and hormonal treatment have lost their power. Narcotics, although helpful, are not as effective as they are in many other cancers.

Yet the news is not all gloomy. Early diagnosis of cancer of the prostate has become easier since the introduction of the PSA (prostatic specific antigen) blood test, which helps doctors to distinguish benign from malignant enlargement of the gland. Treatment is improving, and now Metastron — strontium-89 chloride, a radiotracer — is being marketed for the relief of bone pain once it is no longer controlled by other means.

Mestrastron has the advantage of reaching all the bony deposits, as it is not always possible to give localised radiotherapy to each one. It is administered in outpatient departments as a single intravenous infusion, if given immediately after diagnosis or if the PSA starts to rise after treatment. Any side-effects.

At present, Metastron is prescribed for the relief of pain only at a late stage of disease, when the tumour has escaped from hormonal control. Used in this way, the drug seems to have had no statistical effect on long-term survival — but its injection, as well as relieving pain in existing bony tumours, does result in a striking reduction in the number of new sites where pain might develop, and thereby improves quality of life.

One 50-year-old architect is very grateful for the advent of Metastron. He was suffering severe pain from prostatic cancer which

**DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD**

if necessary.

In Britain, Metastron, manufactured by Amersham Health Care and distributed by Zeneca (formerly ICI), is licensed only for use in cases of advanced cancer of the prostate — but enough patients have responded in the same way as the architect to warrant research into its use earlier in the course of the disease. Trials are now being carried out to test Metastron's value if given immediately after diagnosis or if the PSA starts to rise after treatment.

In America, the Food and Drug Administration has given approval for the use of Metastron for the relief of pain in all cases of bony cancer. A recent report from Amersham Health Care shows that in the US, 30 per cent of the Metastron imported is used to treat advanced breast cancer, and that it is also frequently prescribed for patients with myeloma.

In Britain, if specialist doctors want to give Metastron to patients who are suffering from forms of cancer other than prostatic tumours, they can do so if they make special arrangements with the authorities.

Unfortunately, like any other treatment, rest is not without its side-effects. Since the days of the space programme scientists have documented the drastic changes that happen to muscle, bone and heart from enforced rest — muscles can alter their biochemistry and metabolism within hours of enforced inactivity. The psychological consequences are as profound — frustration, fear, demoralisation and depression. About 50 per cent of the CFS patients we see in our specialist clinic are depressed — I am sometimes surprised it is not more.

These patients are told so emphatically to rest because in

## ME: is this the answer?

The space programme showed that enforced inactivity causes drastic changes to muscle and bone, as well as increasing depression. Now more active treatment is recommended

**S**ufferers from ME are usually ordered to do nothing but rest. Dr Simon Wessely describes an alternative showing good results

the short term rest works — it reduces symptoms. The cost is long-term problems. Too often we see people in whom overzealous advice to rest has turned what might have been a self-limiting illness into a long battle with disability.

But this week's *British Medical Journal* brings some hope. Researchers in the Departments of Medicine and Psychiatry at Oxford University have published a randomised controlled trial of a structured rehabilitation programme for CFS. One year later 73 per cent of those receiving the active treatment had done well, with the attainment of near normal functioning, compared with only 23 per cent of those receiving standard medical care.

The treatment (called cognitive behaviour therapy) is based on a very simple idea — that regardless of what starts an illness, which in this case might be glandular fever, stress or an unknown cause, something else may be the reason why people fail to recover. It is also pragmatic — therapist and patient work together in experiments to see what actually helps.

This is not the first time cognitive behaviour therapy has been used to treat CFS, but

Dr Michael Sharpe and his

team have provided a randomised controlled trial. It is not a flash in the pan either — at King's College Hospital my colleagues and I have also completed a controlled trial of the same treatment with equally promising results.

The treatment begins with an interview which may last up to three hours with each patient. The doctor takes a full history, listening carefully and providing sensible explanations. Often it is the first time that the patient's condition has been taken seriously, and it is an essential part of building confidence.

The next stage is to try to introduce some predictability and consistency into sufferers' lives. Nearly everyone that I see with chronic fatigue has adopted their own particular method of coping with the illness. They tend to rest for a few hours of days, in the belief that this saves up energy (unfortunately energy is not a commodity that can be rationed in this manner). This is followed by a burst of activity, often over a period of exhaustion, necessitating more days or even weeks of rest, until another burst is attempted.

Sufferers can remain in this state, yo-yoing from too much

to too little activity, for years.

The treatment offers a way out by balancing activity and rest. No more doing too much, so no need to do too little either.

Only then, when the sufferer feels comfortable, is it time to start a programme of cautious, planned increases in activity, spread over weeks and months. It is also important to consider the psychological side of the illness — are there emotional factors such as fear or depression which need treatment?

This is not a panacea or miracle cure, and it doesn't work for everyone. But it does offer a realistic and safe method of improving the quality of life and starting sufferers on the road back to health.

The *BMJ* report concludes that the results do not tell us the cause of CFS, but instead indicate that disability in patients with the condition is not fixed, and that a return to relatively normal functioning is possible for the majority.

Her sleep was poor, and rarely refreshing. She usually needed to "catch up" by sleeping late in the morning and taking naps in the afternoon.

She was exhausted by minimal exertion — activities such as washing her hair, sitting up in a chair, holding a cup or talking to her family.

She occasionally had "good days" when she would visit her friends or go to the shops, but always paid for such bursts of activity with an increase in fatigue and muscle pain.

She was willing to attempt a cognitive behavioural approach, but admitted she had little confidence in it, since after repeated, unsuccessful attempts to resume a normal life, she felt frustrated and demoralised, and believed she would have to resign herself to living with it.

The initial set of targets agreed with Susan and her

### GASE STUDY

Susan was a 24-year-old librarian referred by her GP with a four-year history of severe physical and mental fatigue after glandular fever. She had been unable to work for the past year, and was now living with her parents. She spent most of the day resting on or in bed, or watching television. She found it difficult to concentrate, and had difficulty in the way of social life. Although she was previously "sporty", this was now impossible.

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We warned that she might still experience some minor aches after activity, but that this would disappear.

By the first treatment session she was going out in the evening twice weekly, preparing her own lunch every

weekend.

She paid for bursts of activity with an increase in pain

parents included walking around the garden unaided for two minutes three times a day, standing up to make herself a hot drink five times a day, and chatting to a friend on the telephone for ten minutes daily. We advised her to get up at 10.30am, not to nap during the day. This proved very difficult at first, but after three or four weeks she noticed an improvement in the quality of her sleep at night. Despite slow start she made fairly good progress after

four weeks.

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Her fatigue had reduced, although it never went away completely. She was more optimistic about the future, and was more confident that she would be able to manage her symptoms.

She was followed up further six months, during which time she continued to carry out a self-directed treatment programme.

One year later she had left hospital and was studying modern languages at college.

**Dr Bruce Charlton on the mystery of the rise in coronary heart disease**

## The heart epidemic that never was

EVERYBODY knows that there has been an epidemic of coronary heart disease (CHD) in Britain and other Western countries. Hardly diagnosed at the beginning of the century, heart disease is the commonest cause of death.

Most true epidemics are the result of exposure to a new environmental hazard such as an infectious disease or a toxin. But despite vast research efforts, nothing convincing has ever emerged to explain either the rise of heart disease or its current rapid decline.

But what if there never was an epidemic? What if the rise in CHD were due not to a new health hazard, but to the removal of old ones? This is what William Stehbens, Professor of Pathology from Wellington, New Zealand, claims in an article in the latest issue of *Medical Hypotheses*.

As befits a pathologist, Professor Stehbens subjects the evidence to rigorous post-mortem analysis. It is difficult to establish the reality of even a contemporary, supposed acute epidemic (such as meningitis or asthma), because of problems with unreliable data collection, changes in diagnostic sensitivity and public

awareness, and advances in clinical and laboratory practice. When such difficulties are spread over many years, he argues that the sources of inaccuracy multiply and render data virtually useless.

And most of the evidence to suggest a CHD epidemic comes from death certificates, a source of data with a poor reputation for quality. Indeed, Professor Alvin Feinstein of Yale University has called for an end to such research, declaring the results to be merely "processed garbage".

But it still remains to explain the fact that CHD mortality rose throughout the

century. If it was not an epidemic, then what was the cause? Professor Stehbens suggests that the increased mortality rate from CHD was actually a consequence of health improvements. More people now live to an age where hardening of the arteries becomes a problem — leading to a great likelihood of heart attacks and strokes. And since the introduction of antibiotics, fewer people die of infectious disease, so that deaths from other causes, including CHD were almost bound to increase.

So there never was an "epidemic" of CHD, and the

apparent risk of dying from a heart attack went up only because the risk of getting other diseases went down. Whether this is sufficient to explain the whole CHD epidemic is uncertain — it may imply that the rise was real, but smaller than believed.

But Professor Stehbens shows the extreme difficulty of understanding historical trends in disease. Claims of long-term changes in mortality are frequently rhetoric rather than reportage.

Dr Bruce Charlton is a lecturer in epidemiology and public health at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Thirty years of sleaze: A new BBC TV drama series looks at the seedy side of British public life. Page 33

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# Why home-school contracts will fail our children



Parents could soon have to sign agreements to ensure their children attend school and do homework. But there is a serious flaw, says Nigella Lawson

The most blistering attack the Conservatives have been able to make on Labour's party policy until now is that a) it doesn't exist, or (b) it is stolen from them. The only catchphrases about which is the most convincing line to take tell us something in itself. Or should, really, be able to tell the difference and would certainly be better advised, if not to pretend one could.

Now John Major, having seen how successful Tony Blair has been with strategy (b), has decided to plump for a bit of cross-party policy-planning himself. Some time ago, the Labour Party proposed a form of home-school contract, by which parents would agree to do their bit to ensure their children's attendance at school and make sure they completed the work set for them at home.

Now the Tories are hardly let it be known that, under their plans, parents will be obliged to sign formal contracts with the head teacher of their child's school. Officially, not much more has been said about these contracts in the Conservative manifesto, but it is not that alone which makes me conclude that we are seeing here the exercising of option (a).

It is not that contracts aren't great idea. Most people — any head teachers among them — are convinced that contracts are a Good Thing. Parents must take responsibility for their children's conduct — which is not necessarily the same thing as taking the blame — and be willing to accept that they do have a role to play in ensuring their children turn up for school, do the work the school set them and abide by the rules of just school, but of society. Parents bring their children into the world and have a duty to equip them for it as best they can. Teachers are here to teach, parents are here to teach something even more far-reaching.

But the only sort of contract that can work is, in effect, a verbal one, the sort Sam Goldwyn described as not worth the paper it's written on. Sounds emanating from No 10 suggest that something a little more stringent is desirable. Mr Major would appear to want a formal contract to be offered by schools and signed by parents as a condition for admission to them.

Thus, the whole idea is rendered null and void. It

## State schools can't just expel pupils they don't like\*

considerations are rather different. And, quite apart from anything else, the difference between a fee-paying school and a state one is that a private school can refuse entry or later eject anyone it doesn't wish to include among its number. A state school cannot just expel a pupil and, if it could, it wouldn't change anything.

The flaw in the Major version of the home-school contract is that the only effect that removing "undesirable" pupils from certain schools would have would be, momentarily, to improve the average at that particular school.

For a man so fond of league tables and charters, I can see the attraction. But, in fact, all this drawing up of contracts by the chartering classes so far has not, for example, stopped your train running late or ensured you get your hip operation in time. All it has done is provide a conduit for your discontent.

If a child whose parents will not comply is removed from one school, then another school must take him or her. The idea that all state schools can be turned into St Paul's just by getting rid of those with bad performances or poor attitudes (or those of their parents) is ludicrous — and irresponsible. All it does is



Will parents have to sign a contract before their children can attend school? And what happens to those who won't?

shunt the problem along. Expelled children have to go somewhere, and the one place you don't want them is on the streets.

Mr Blair's proposal for some sort of "swallow of good faith" on the part of parents, in exchange for a declaration of duty by the teachers, is obviously right in principle, but beyond that one wonders whether it will have any effect whatsoever. That is to say, those parents who are in agreement are probably doing their bit already, and those who don't care are not going to turn into Mrs and Pa Walton at the Labour leader's request.

It is difficult a contract with

no binding implications is not really a contract, but one that is made statutory as is impossible as it is undesirable. Rightly, we tend to think that it is the province of tinpot dictators to go about creating ever-new categories of criminal. And the idea of forcing parents to police their children as they themselves are being policed by the State is ridiculous and rebarbative. But still, I do think on balance it is probably better to state out loud what one thinks everyone's rights and duties are, and what they entail.

The real difficulty, and this is something that no politician, whether red or blue — or, as it might be, pink or grey — could broach, is that the whole ethos of this country is anti-intellectual, and by extension suspi-

cious of education. I spoke above of middle-class anxieties about educational standards, but only among the English is a desire for educational attainment so peculiarly thought of as middle-class ponceyness. The poorest immigrant family will urge their children to study in school and study at home. And school results bear this out. Only the English will, as a point of pride, disdain all efforts to improve oneself as swank or pretension. Interestingly, the Scottish are not like that; perhaps that is the key to Mr Blair's strength.

That apart, if Mr Major really thinks that the solution lies with a contract, then perhaps he should consider taking out the other sort of contract. The only quick way to get rid of problem pupils

once and for all would be to issue all head teachers with machine-guns and get them to round up the difficult and undesirable pupils in the playground at break and take them out.

## When ethnic origins cause mental problems

Quentin Letts on the official recognition of cultural ailments

It is official: Latins are excitable, West Indians are prone to inaction, and Malays tend to run amok. The American Psychiatric Association (APA) has for the first time notified its members that people of different cultural backgrounds can have different mental problems.

In a new set of guidelines, the association has stated that mental-health experts should in future consider patients' cultural and ethnic origins before diagnosis or treatment. The news, unpalatable as it might be to America's melting-pot race theorists, is a triumph for a New York psychiatrist who has long campaigned for cultural diagnosis.

Dr Juan Mezzich, 49,

experts point to anorexia nervosa, or identity disorders. These can be ascribed to the West's emphasis on personal image. To treat these illnesses you must understand the culture, say the experts.

Recommended treatment involves surrounding the patient with family or members of the same ethnic origins, who will understand what the patient is going through. Dr Mezzich took this course with a South American patient suffering from *susto* after the death of a favourite uncle. Dr Mezzich realised that in her culture it was traditional for group mourning to be held on the death of a close friend or relation. He duly rallied the



Latinos tend to excitability

woman's family. A wake was held and within days the woman was on the road to recovery.

How about the British? In London, you are likely to have cultural syndromes as much as in a city like New York," says Dr Mezzich.

"British phlegm

may present its own problems, but we have nothing as spectacular as, for example, the Chinese *shen-kuai* ("life-threatening" loss of semen, caused by anxiety). However, these illnesses occur not only in distant lands," says Dr Mezzich. "They are also here in the suburbs."

And those Malays? The old staff-style book of one national newspaper, in an effort to cut cliché-mongering, used to instruct rookie reporters that "only Malays can run amok". The association's manual takes a different line. The Malays are prone to "a period of brooding followed by an outburst of aggressive or homicidal behaviour". But it adds that the syndrome is also detected in the denizens of Laos, the Philippines, Polynesia, Papua New Guinea, Puerto Rico and among the Navajo Indians. There is a lot of it about.

I reads not unlike the notebook of a Victorian explorer. Listed are such mental ailments as Malaysian koro (the sexual organ, because of intense anxiety, will recede into the body and possibly cause death) and West African brain fog (mental fatigue, leading to blurred vision and depression). Even the Japanese, often perceived as cool to the point of impermeability, have a cultural syndrome, *tajin kyofusho*, which is effectively a dread of embarrassment.

Dr Mezzich, who chairs the cultural diagnosis committee of America's National Institute of Mental Health, argues that there is nothing racist in the description of such illnesses. "It is simply that culture informs disorders," he says.

In the US and other Western countries, for instance, cultural diagnostic

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## They schmooze, therefore they are



Giles Coren in search of a new social group: the schmoozeoisie

AFTER THE Yuppies and the Nineties, the Dwins, Wasps, and Simpkins, you might have thought we'd had all the American social classifications we could handle. However, we are about to witness the ascendancy of a mere group, but of a new class, one

of which Karl Marx never dreamt: the schmoozeoisie.

They are with us already, and you know them: Angus Deayton, Clive Anderson, Wogan, Aspel, Tony Blair, Melvyn Bragg, anyone who appears on *This Morning*. For them, to schmooze is to live.

It was coined in the *Boston Globe* in 1992, by a Professor of English called Paul Lewis," she says. "The US media caught on and it is now common currency." It is already beginning to take hold in Britain. So what does it mean?

There is a problem with translation, in that it is a mongrel portmanteau word drawn from Yiddish-American slang and French. Schmooze cannot adequately be rendered as gossip (with a hint of "buttering up") any more than schlep, or schmaltz, or schick can be expressed concisely in English.

Nor are there set rules on spelling — schmoos, schmooze, schmuss, schmooze are all equally admissible. It suggests talking because you think you are good at it, think it might be advantageous to you, and have nothing better to do. For

schmoozeocrats, talking trumps giving back talk. Gore and Clinton schmooze, and Reagan never did.

The same model can be applied in Britain. Tony Blair is schmooze, but the Prime Minister is not. Largely because Blair, like Clinton, is capable of doing it. Major, like Reagan, is not.

And there is a hierarchy.

In a classless society, with a fragile monarchy, we are entering an age when one's rank in the schmoozeocracy is all important. Beware the tragedy of King McVey.

Edwina Currie and Angus Deayton

schmoozeocrats, the politicians always ready to chat on television: John Prescott, Teresa Gorman, Edwina Currie, and

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مكتبة الأصل

# Mitterrand, the French Machiavelli

Charles Bremner on the illusionist who bewitched France

**S**earching for the measure of François Mitterrand yesterday, French television made much of a remark by Baroness Thatcher. The woman whom the former French President once defined as a blend of Caligula and Marilyn Monroe was quoted as calling him one of the few men who had never betrayed her. For all their duelling over Europe, she has never forgotten a Saturday in 1982 when the Socialist President brushed aside the advisers who wanted to make capital with the Third World and sided with London rather than Argentina over the Falklands.

That act was deemed a betrayal by much of the French Left, the force which Mitterrand had harnessed to carry him to power. But betrayal — or, as he preferred to call it, the art of the unexpected — was Mitterrand's hallmark throughout half a century in or around high office.

The boy from a provincial Roman Catholic bourgeois family insisted in his dying days that he had stayed faithful to the humanist ideals of his youth, but his journey led him through giddy shifts of allegiance which bewildered followers while earning respect for his deportment.

The list of desertions was long, from the service to both Vichy France and the Resistance to the intrigues of the Fourth Republic, which he served as a centrist minister, through to the Socialist cause itself. Most of those left by the wayside, from former prime ministers to his multitude of feminine conquests, nursed their bitterness in private. A few went public, notably the two lieutenants who in the past three years have chosen to prove their chagrin through suicide: Pierre Berégovoy, the last Socialist Prime Minister, and François de Grossouvre, his one-time palace fixer. It was de Grossouvre's death in the Elysée Palace two years ago which most spoke for the sulphur and decay that stained the closing months of the presidency.

Many outside France marvelled at how after being disgraced for faking a murder attempt against himself in 1959, Mitterrand came back in the 1970s to win the affection of the country and be twice elected to the seven-year presidency. His power sprang from two sources. He was an extraordinary seducteur, a mixture of intellect and charm which could silence adversaries. And he was a master tactician and a political killer who enjoyed nothing better than dispatching his rivals and even allies.

The rough and tumble of an Anglo-Saxon political life would have trimmed Mitterrand's Bonapartist tendencies, but a presidential system requires a leader to cultivate his mystique. The solitary *Florentin* (as he was known in deference to his Machiavellian wiles) could convey the pomp of power while keeping an ironic distance. He would flatter by seeming to take one into his confidence, musing in

his acid and literary way on the vagaries of life and politics. "Of course it is only power that matters," he said late one night in 1982. "You can do nothing without it. That's why I admire Thatcher."

Even in his final year, stricken with cancer, he could not resist the impulse to win over his compatriots with witty commentaries on his imminent death. We are all passengers on an airliner (he would say), happily sipping the champagne in the certain knowledge we are flying into a mountain. His performances won much admiration.

The showman President made his supporters swallow a lot over the years, sometimes to the benefit of his country and the world beyond. It is hard, in these post-communist days, to recall the exultation on the Left that greeted the Mitterrand victory of May 10, 1981. For the generation of 1968, the teachers and civil service workers and the unions, the triumph was less an election than a revolution against a hated *ancien régime*. Thousands were busy packing their money off to Switzerland on the day that Mitterrand launched his rule with a pilgrimage to the Jesuit saints in the Panthéon. Yet within two years, he had strangled the Communist Party, Moscow's loyal ally, thrown the Socialist economic programme into reverse and sided with President Reagan against Moscow, appealing in the Bundestag for West Germany to accept American missiles on its territory. He also proved that the Fifth Republic was a truly stable democracy where the parties alternated in power.

**I**t was one of the Mitterrand paradoxes that this bookish President used the Gaullist system which he had once reviled as a "permanent coup d'état"; to assume a grandeur that outshone the General. President Chirac's attempt to strike a *Gaulle* pose are like a schoolboy's effort by comparison.

François Mitterrand said often enough that he wanted to go down in history as the builder of the new Europe of Maastricht, along with his friend, Helmut Kohl. Failing that, he made sure he would be remembered as the architect of the new Paris, by doing more to change the city's skyline than anyone since Napoleon III. Yet expensive monumental architecture is the only real cultural legacy of a President who devoted himself to the arts.

The dust has not even begun to settle after 14 years of *Mitterrandism*, but the historians may not be so generous as the old man's supporters. Their eulogies yesterday spoke of him as a "giant" and a "statesman". His critics might reply that Mitterrand nursed illusions about France's destiny and allowed it to live beyond its means. He left to Chirac, his Gaullist successor, the dirty work that is necessary to fulfil the late President's vision of a peaceful and communautaire France.



## Top Cs, but no tiaras

The Royal Opera should use its exile to make converts across the country

To borrow for a moment the format of an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting or detox centre: my name is Elizabeth, I am 35 years old and I have a Royal Opera House habit.

I know it is not rational. I have tried to kick it. I know it does untold harm to my prosperity, street credibility and (given the ventilation problem) my body thermostat. As each subscription spree comes to an end I resolve to turn away from the rocco gliding and dodgy plumbing, the louringly pomposus red velvet curtains, the rising reek of wealth from the orchestra stalls and the steady insistent beckoning of that amphibious side door on Floral Street. But every time the pushers get me back. They send me glossy brochures with covers showing oil-painted cellos and fruit and pedestals. I open them and before I know where I am another vast wad of banknotes has changed hands and I am down for several hits of forgotten Verdi, a line of *Götterdämmerung* and a snort of *Così fan tutte*.

Like all party drugs, opera is variable in quality and unreliable in supply: sometimes it leaves me as elevated as I hoped or more so — emotionally stretched, opened up to feelings nobler and more mysterious than common life can bring. At other times (such as the magnificently mad *King Arthur* with wind-up flowers and trampolining haymakers, and four hours of uncut heroic couples) it threatens to extinguish all vital signs forever. But addicts are easily perturbed.

Which is a shame. For a great opera house and company is a national treasure. Its existence leads, inspires and feeds all the others down to the newest and smallest regional outfit and beyond them to the amateurs. It is the gold standard, the heart of the art. The ROH orchestra, singers, dancers, conductors, directors, repetiteurs, scenery and costume teams must not be dispersed by mere homelessness.

At the moment, the idea seems to be that they will tour, putting on productions on much the same scale as at present. Keith Cooper, director of public affairs, told a newspaper at the weekend that the managers are "working out another kind of existence that is within our control. The option of closing would mean high redundancy and start-up costs. The board and management have committed themselves to keeping the show on the road". Pressed on the difficulty of getting the Pavarotti and Domingo, he firmly said: "Big stars will be contracted as they normally are ... they know where places like Manchester and Birmingham are."

The same, then, only less so? There is a depressing doggedness about the idea. But suddenly it dawned on me that there is something else the Royal Opera House

could do: it could turn its homelessness into something glorious. It could use its two years of exile not to cobbble together ill-tempered productions with haughty imported stars in theatres where it is not comfortable, but to diffuse itself, reach out its iridescent tentacles into every corner of our national life. It could dance gladly from its brick prison and teach under a tree: go out in small bands to make friends, followers and converts.

After all, when you are reading your £3.00 red glossy programme in the crush bar queue and grow tired of trying to decide whether Araldo is Momuscassino's brother-in-law disguised as Beppo or what, you will find a page marked "Aims and Aspirations"; which includes not only the presentation of high-quality opera and ballet but a commitment to provide the widest possible access ... to extend public understanding ... to extend audiences". On the next page, "Outreach and Access", there is a modest account of what the education department does with schools, courses, hospitals, and so on. You will sense from this that although its decade of work is braggadocio about in the programme, the education department is still the untransfigured Cinderella of the outfit. You can also work out without much difficulty that the "100 events to inform and entertain Friends of Covent Garden" are not reaching out very far or very strenuously. The well-bred ladies who decorously queue for a backstage tour or a luncheon *Traviata* singalong (done that too) are not exactly a hard catch.

But freed from the arduous business of manning an opera house night after night, why should the whole burning talent of the company not concentrate — just for those two years and in between occasional grand performances in major cities — on reaching out more and more? Use some Lottery money to pay a fleet of minibuses — *Nessun Dormobiles* perhaps — in which posse of musicians, singers, dancers, designers and directors could descend on every remote rural community school, scrubby inner-city hall and suburban golf club. Children, pensioners, youth clubs and weary commuters could be swept up in a craze of DIY opera; enthused, amused, educated, inspired.

It would work not only because it is proven that if offered the great tunes, the veriest cod will gladly hum them. It will work because it always does. I have spent magical days watching ROH director Richard Gregson and his colleagues make children whose horizon had been bounded by Michael Jackson perform short operas: the emotional force of music-drama held even the hardest cases in thrall through a ten-hour day. I have taken part in *La traviata* during one of the lamentably rare ROH weekend workshops, being shown how a chorus is made to move and flow naturally even while singing the fiddly bits. Around me were serious amateur singers and rank beginners, led by Covent Garden principals and disciplined to an approximation of professional standards.

Over time, compulsory savings would take the pressure off today's unfunded welfare bill. They would also raise savings ratio and so begin to offer business a new supply of long-term investment savings.

Already, much of Labour's policy is in place and only be presented in stakeholder terms. The emphasis on stakeholder status would be reinforced by the idea of stakeholders' accounts. This would detail a mini-package of education offers from nursery through to university. Individuals need not have access to the latter part of this package while they are teenagers. Rather, the offer would be a lifetime account, which fits easily into the evolution of Labour policy. Individuals might also have access to the lifetime savings and pension accounts not merely for house deposits, but for training investment as well.

**S**takeholding would make a reality of the NHS as our health service — which patently it has not been up to now. With a universalised NHS status system, the boards could be elected at the same time as local authorities. This reform would itself open up the possibility of a hypothecated health tax. Such a reform would avoid the scheme with a clear money-ratiocinating mechanism to match the service rationing which the Tory reforms have made transparent for the first time.

It is crucial to move away from the present welfare structure, which increasingly depends on means-tested support. The current system feeds both fraud and the dependency culture. Under stakeholders' welfare self-improvement would again be put at the centre of Labour's policies. A reconstructed National Insurance scheme, with benefits more clearly linked to contributions, would also open the door to a contributor-run organisation. Such a reform would illustrate again that universal services can be provided which are not run by the State.

The public is bored with much of what goes on under the heading of European politics and strategy. Voters feel that Britain is being pulled along behind a Franco-German centralisation exercise. The stakeholder idea offers Britain the chance to break free and set out for Europe a clear alternative. Stakeholding is in essence a policy of decentralisation, creating institutions which members themselves own and which, if they wish, they can themselves run.

It forges a new concept of citizenship. The advance of economic and social citizenship the century has been built on sand. The idea of stakeholding in welfare, health and education seeks to give a reality to the ideal of a Britain in which everyone has invested. It covers people's lifetime needs, not by mouthful terms like "rights" — which have all too often turned out to be empty slogans — but with capital ownership and insurance schemes. The dominant theme of 20th-century Labour politics has been the wish to create an inclusive society in which everybody is a fully paid-up member. The idea of stakeholding offers to make the idea of stakeholding a claim to power.

**Staking a claim to power**  
Frank Field on Tony Blair's big idea for Labour

## Closed Booth

LESS GIN will be drunk in Buckingham Palace this year than last, if the latest roll-call of Royal Warrants of Appointment is anything to go by. The Queen has dropped Booth's from her shopping list.

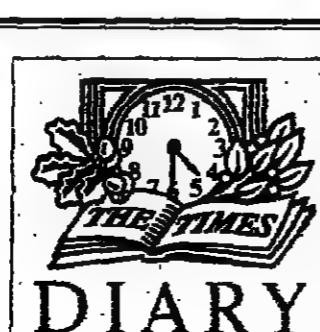
Booth's finest has been a feature

of the pre-prandial chinwag at the Palace since before the First World War. "Certainly, they have had a record of supplying since 1911," explains the Royal Warrant Holders' Association. "And they may have started long before that."

Records show that the Booth family was distilling in the 18th century, and that Felix Booth, who gained sole control of the company in 1818, was a close friend of William IV, so he almost certainly provided him with a cup or two.

Last year, Booth's Distilleries still enjoyed royal patronage, and was listed among the tradesmen supplying the department of the Master of the Household. But in the 1996 list Booth's does not feature.

"It's very disappointing," admits a spokesman for the brand, which is now owned by United Distillers. Last year, the Palace dropped another of United Distillers' products, Guinness, because less stout was being imbibed in court circles. But the company has its toe wedged firmly in the royal door — it still supplies Gordon's to the Queen as well as to one of the spirit's great patrons, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.



• There is considerable relief among ladies who work at the House of Commons gym, now that the men's showers have been fixed. Until yesterday, regulars including Paddy Ashdown were forced to use the ladies' showers, risking blisters with the possibility of bumping into Edwina Currie.

### Out of joint

THE PAINTING which had art dealers reaching for the turps when Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber bought it for a record £15 million last year is to go on show at the National Gallery. It will be the first public unveiling of Picasso's famous work from his Blue Period, *Portrait of Angel Fernández de Soto*, since Lloyd Webber bought it at auction. De Soto is depicted as a confidant

and dandy with arched eyebrows, jutting chin, twisted mouth and projecting ear. Sir Andrew never-theless finds it enchanting.

### Booked up

THE PRINCE of Wales will be thrilled by his bubbly former assistant, private secretary, Belinda Harley, a lady with effusive charm. Since her association with the highest in the land, she has taken a plunge to join the lower ranks for two days a week at the tabloid *Daily Express* — as literary editor.

HARBOUR CLUB GYM  
"I'm a quack, I'm a quack, I'm a quack!"  
"It's a disgrace following someone around like that"

Befor her two-and-a-half years with the Prince, she spent many years in bookish circles. But court life taught her about literary serialisation — she was at the Prince's side weekly by revelatory week as Andrew Morton split the royal beans in *Diana: Her True Story*.

### Quackers

EVEN the quacking in the gardens behind the Elysée was muted yesterday when news rippled round the pond of the death of the famous duck-lover François Mitterrand. The President held his paddling friends in undiluted affection, and visited them daily to feed them.

"When he left public office in May of last year," explains an Elysée source, "he gave Jacques Chirac a lecture. Not on the weighty matters of state, of course. On how to care for the ducks in the presidential pond — what to feed them and how to clean the water."

### Early riser

EMMA NICHOLSON is running scared. Not from John Major or even Michael Portillo, but from Lily Savage. At the last minute yesterday, she pulled out of a planned chat in bed with the perky-bubbling transvestite and her outrageous



Lily Savage: unsuitable

wig for *The Big Breakfast*. By all accounts, she had agreed initially to appear under the duvet for the Wednesday show, but then realised that this wouldn't suit the image of a defected Tory MP. After all, when Michael Hutchence was under the covers on the same show being interviewed by Paula Yates, the electricity generated fit up the studio.

P.H.S.



NOTE



## FRANCOIS MITTERRAND

A towering figure leaves a perilous legacy

President Mitterrand was by any standard one of the most influential Europeans of his time. His death, like those of Konrad Adenauer and General de Gaulle, marks the end of a European era. In the case of France and M Mitterrand, it is not. For France, it marks a generational break with the Vichy years of which, before joining the Resistance in 1943, M Mitterrand was a decorated servant. M Mitterrand acknowledged his full role in Vichy only in 1994; with his death, France should be freer to look with frankness at the Occupation.

His death may also help the country shed the remnants of a still older political tradition: that of France's 19th-century Third Republic. M Mitterrand is most often associated, and for good cause, with the political opportunism and *salon* deals of the Fourth Republic in which, just under 50 years ago, he launched his ministerial career. But his radical republicanism — the most enduring trait left by a lifetime of shifting political allegiances — owed even more to that earlier era.

Republicanism fired his opposition to the Fifth Republic of de Gaulle, whom he accused of a staging a permanent *coup d'état*; 19th-century ideas also underpinned his firm belief in a strongly interventionist state. Yet his 14-year tenure in the Elysée is best described as a *reign*: the side who once cut short a speech of welcome with the words "The President comes to speak, not to listen", encapsulated an alochess close to arrogance. It was with its language and the methods of political hats that have served France ill that M Mitterrand summoned Europe to its 21st-century destiny.

It will take time for new course to be set and for France to recover the health of its political institutions. M Mitterrand so dominated French politics since 1981 that he became like a tree under which nothing grew. No mainstream politician is yet ready to question his master plan for "the construction of Europe", singled out yesterday for praise by a political opponent. President Chirac, however, in addition, better respected than was for much of his political life. No encounter in M Mitterrand's long political career was more carefully prepared than his rendezvous with death yesterday. For four years, he met the

pain and certain outcome of a fatal prostate cancer with great courage. His fortitude did much to exalt for his countrymen his reputation as the "Florentine", the supreme and sometimes vindictive manipulator.

In one of the ruminative interviews he gave towards the end of his life, he declared that he wished to go down in history as the architect of domestic social peace and European unity. History, if it acknowledges that these were indeed the driving ambitions of this most impenetrable and devious of political actors, will present a stiff reckoning.

He leaves France a somewhat more modern but certainly more troubled society than it was in 1981, when he finally claimed the Elysée for the Socialist Party which he had embraced ten years before with the express aim of grooming it for power. He is sometimes credited with narrowing the ideological rift between Right and Left; but against that must be set the growth of support for Jean-Marie Le Pen's xenophobic extreme Right. This winter's turmoil in France has exposed how deep are the boils he has left others to lance.

Their virulence derives in part from the disrepute into which the scandal-ridden closing years of M Mitterrand's presidency brought the country's political establishment. They are also a direct legacy of his repeated refusal when in office to put the considerable authority of the Elysée at the service of those in a long list of prime ministers, of Left as well as Right, who attempted controversial reforms. But the street protests are at least equally relevant to M Mitterrand's larger claim on fame's attention: the forced march to European Union on which he set out in the early 1980s.

For France, the costs of the *franc fort* policy which was the linchpin of the Mitterrand strategy for European Union are counted today in high unemployment, coupled with a deficit that has been swelled by the efforts of successive governments to cushion the social costs of years of competitive disinflation. His single-minded drive to curb Germany's growing power by enfolding it in France's tight embrace was damaging not just because of the strains it imposed on France. More important is that the destination he set is not one in which either French or Germans, let alone the rest of Europe, can find lasting ease.

## THE SELECT FEW

Even a small fast stream can help to improve a school

The news that comprehensive schools will be allowed to increase proportion of pupils they select from 10 to 15 per cent might be expected to have no more than a trivial effect on state education. It is buried in the new circular from the Education Secretary, Gillian Shephard, is a more radical departure: that the 15 per cent now being selected on the basis of general ability as well as particular talent in music, drama, sport, technology or foreign languages. At a stroke, this removes the figleaf that helped politicians to pretend that specialisation in schools had nothing in common with selection.

Labour is all in favour of specialisation, but opposes selectivity. Yet aptitude in foreign languages or technology is extremely likely to be accompanied by aptitude in other related academic subjects. And how are schools to choose the gifted linguists or potential engineers except by assessing their ability? This new guidance at last dispels the hypocrisy of claims that a school can specialise without selecting its pupils.

So Labour will have to do some hard thinking. If David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, is sensible, he might cast aside some of the old sticklebacks and welcome what is counterpart is trying to do. For, by reserving 15 per cent of places for fast-stream pupils, socially deprived schools may be able to make themselves more attractive to parents, and selection by class in prosperous areas should be lessened.

Pure comprehensive schools admit pupils according to the distance of a child's home from school. Rather than ensuring statistically random admissions, however, this

merely leads to selection by house price. Middle-class residential areas produce middle-class schools; council estates are too often served by sink schools. Allowing an element of selection by ability into the middle-class schools would give poorer children an opportunity to attend them. And some inner-city deprived schools might be able to give themselves a boost by turning themselves into the specialist "magnet" schools that have been so successful in America.

Once a school has at least 15 per cent of very able children, the other 85 per cent benefit too. Teachers should become more motivated and the school's morale and reputation will grow as a result of shining in its specialist field or sending a higher proportion of pupils to university. Moreover, those pupils who are not selected by ability will still have a chance to move up into the fast stream. Far from being written off at the age of 11, they will have the opportunity to upgrade to grammar-school standards of teaching and learning within their own school.

The only danger of the new circular is its implicit acceptance of the parental interview as a method of selection. Children cannot choose their parents, and those who are able but have unsupportive parents would be doubly disadvantaged by this move. Conversely, pushy middle-class parents are no guarantee of ability or motivation in children. The fairest of all methods of selection for general aptitude is still an IQ test, combined perhaps with tests in English and maths. Children's ability should be allowed to speak for itself.

## RAIL ROMANCE REVIVED

Kent commuterland becomes the gateway to the wider world

Ashford, a prosperous market town in Kent, could become the Crewe of the 21st century. The 06.19 Eurostar from Waterloo yesterday became the first train to stop — intentionally — this side of the Channel when it drew up at Ashford International, the new southern gateway to the Continent. Nine international services will now call daily at the station, with services to Paris and Brussels, additional stops at Calais and Lille and connections to the future to southern France, Germany and beyond. For the first time in 150 years, a British regional station will be able to boast like hundreds of stations in Switzerland and Belgium, access to mighty expresses running their way to distant foreign parts.

Ashford should rejoice in being put on the railway map. Its £100 million station is a confident assertion of a future that will bring two million passengers a year to this new interchange. Nick Derbyshire, the architect responsible for the inspired reconstruction of Liverpool Street, has produced next century's version of the soaring public architect that defined the Victorians a century ago. In doing so, he has added Ashford to a list of towns spawned and

enriched by the railways: Crewe, Swindon and York in Britain, Chicago in America and Novosibirsk in Siberia, a mere village until the builders of the Trans-Siberian camped on the banks of the mighty Ob while they pondered the engineering challenge.

Ashford will perhaps never become Leipzig, which long boasted that it was Europe's biggest station. With 26 platforms, it once offered connections to every part of Europe, and survived both allied bombs and East German bankruptcy — though for 40 years its echoing halls were eerily empty, isolated behind the Iron Curtain. Now that trains again flow uninterrupted from west to east, Leipzig, in its chagrin, is to lose two platforms and its pre-eminence to Frankfurt.

Ashford, however, has come to railway fame in a new age of a new train. It inherits the glamour — the fur, the hissing, the arched porticos — that brought all human emotion to the railway station and left Anna Karenina and *Brief Encounter* indelibly wreathed in steam. There will be romance, tears and a touch of the exotic on Ashford's platforms too, though free of grimy nostalgia. From today the little Kent town will be the doorway to a continent of adventure.

امان الحلة

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Moral and practical objections to Masari expulsion

From Sir Horace Phillips

Sir, In discussion of the Masari affair (leading article, January 5; letters, January 6) two related aspects seem to have been neglected: arms sales to certain governments, and the possibility of those governments' eventual downfall.

During the latter years of my diplomatic career (1947-77) and later, the Government made arms exports (technically, defence sales) the leading commercial activity of certain of our embassies. Commenting on the Scott inquiry you observed that "Lady Thatcher was known to be keen on boosting [these] and not to be too choosy about their destination" (leading article, December 9, 1993). The feeling was that if Britain adopted a moral stance, other exporters would exploit the gap. Competitive cynicism crept into government policy. Members of Parliament were given no opportunity to argue whether this boost to British exports should offset any moral qualms.

I could understand the domestic political advantages: jobs and export earnings. But I deplored the seemingly indiscriminate spread of these exports. If they helped Britain, was that held to be reason enough for them — never mind what kind of dictatorial regime the purchasers might be. And the more dictatorial, it seemed, the more profitable the exports: Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia.

But leave aside the moral aspect. History shows that no people will tolerate dictatorship indefinitely. And when such a régime is eventually brought down the people are all too ready to allege that it was supported in its rule by arms bought from foreign powers. Whatever commercial or other advantages the latter may have had in the country as a result, these disappear with the fallen régime.

### Irish peace process

From Mr John Coleman

Sir, It would be very sad if the Irish peace process failed now (report and Kevin Myers article, January 3). I sympathise with the Protestants in Northern Ireland who want decommissioning of IRA arms before talks take place, but more or less total restraint in the use of those arms for a year should form the basis for talks. The decommissioning of weapons should be strictly related to any concessions given to the IRA in those welfare budgets.

In principle it is best to talk to people, however bad you might think they are. Jaw-jaw is always better than war-war. Each positive piece of good that comes out of talks should naturally be accompanied by a step in the decommissioning process.

How else can the IRA leadership remain credible to its turbulent followers?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN COLEMAN (Editor),  
New European,  
14-16 Carrown Road, SW8.  
January 3.

From Mr David Beck

Sir, Cardinal Cahal Daly's well intentioned comments on the Northern Irish peace process during a Mass in his Armagh archdiocese (report, January 2) may be counter-productive. For the cardinal to use this opportunity to comment on the Conservatives' "shrinking majority" at Westminster is an unhelpful mix of religion and politics.

If the much sought-for peaceful solution to the problems of Northern Ireland is to be found, should not all churches agree to an immediate cessation of politics from the pulpit?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID BECK,  
33 St Stephen's Terrace, SW8.  
January 2.

### Ethiopian monoliths

From Professor Emeritus Bent Juel-Jensen

Sir, It is good that you should keep your readers informed about the progress of Dr Phillipson's excavations in Aksum in the northern highlands of Ethiopia ("Ancient city reveals more of its secrets", December 28).

During the few weeks it stayed last week, the German Aksum expedition of 1906 made important discoveries, but it was not the first to report the existence of the magnificent monoliths. Francesco Alvarez gives a vivid description of the stelae in his account of the Portuguese expedition to Ethiopia in the early 1520s (published in Lisbon in 1540).

Several writers have noted them since, including Manuel de Almeida in the 17th century, and Henry Salt not only described the stelae in his volumes but published a large hand-coloured aquatint of the stelae in 1809, the finest picture of them to appear to date.

Yours faithfully,  
BENT JUEL-JENSEN,  
St Cross College, Oxford.  
January 1.

Business letters, page 27

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

movement in Britain may well be strengthened by his deportation, while the work of the CDR will be continued by others.

The British Government must take a broad view of the changes that are poised to sweep through the Muslim world. Cultivating friends for the future is as important as keeping present friends mollified.

Yours faithfully,

KALIM SIDDIQUI, Leader,  
Muslim Parliament of Great Britain,  
109 Putney Palace Road, W6.

From Mr Tony Purton

Sir, If, as the report in your earlier editions today suggests, Dominic's kind offer of asylum for Muhammad al-Masari is connected with a significant increase of overseas aid to the island, was the Government once again exceeding its powers under the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980 by linking British aid with British arms sales? The Pergau Dam affair seems to have been forgotten.

Yours faithfully,  
TONY PURTON,  
48 Kent Avenue, Ealing, W13.  
January 6.

From Mr Edward Taylor

Sir, Tony Banks states that Saudi Arabia has "a very nasty and unpleasant regime" (report, January 5). Is this the official opinion of the Labour Party? If it is, and if the party wins the next election, then we might as well forget about any future co-operation, commercial or political, with the friendly Arab states, particularly those within the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD TAYLOR,  
Pentrecothen, Rhayader, Powys.  
January 6.

From Mr Michael Scott

Sir, I fear your report, "Woman recovers after five years in vegetative state" (January 4), may have given a rather incomplete picture of the fate of the young lady reported in this week's *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Indeed, the Singaporean model,

which I am flying out to see at first hand next week, is a collective Government scheme, not a private one. It does however offer individual mem-

bers a real personal stake, whilst at the same time drawing on the collective strength of a national insurance model.

I would stress that at this stage Labour has not reached any specific conclusions in its review of welfare policy, but we do believe that there are a number of lessons we can learn from best practice elsewhere. We will not, however, be looking to either the Adam Smith Institute or this privatising Government for advice.

Yours sincerely,  
CHRIS SMITH,  
Shadow Secretary of State  
for Social Security,  
House of Commons.  
January 5.

From the Director of the British Newsprint Manufacturers' Association

Sir, Dr Collins is wrong to say that the virtues of recycling paper "had not been based on sound scientific evidence" and that "paper waste would often be better burnt as fuel than incinerated".

Recycling is a green option. Readers are urged to think of the three R's: reduce, re-use, recycle. This includes continuing to recycle their copies of *The Times*.

Yours etc,  
GEORGINA GREEN  
(Forest Campaigner),  
Friends of the Earth,  
26-28 Underwood Street, N1.  
January 4.

From the Director of the British Newsprint Manufacturers' Association

Sir, Dr Collins is wrong to say that the virtues of recycling paper "had not been based on sound scientific evidence" and that "paper waste would often be better burnt as fuel than incinerated".

A study which we commissioned last year by Professor David Pearce of University College London and other experts concluded overwhelmingly that recycling paper was environmentally and economically preferable to incineration. Recycling provides a value-added benefit to society while incineration imposes a net cost.

Recycling does not present a threat to growing trees, as Dr Collins suggests. Worldwide demand for wood is growing and while this is so, trees will continue to be planted. Paper cannot be recycled indefinitely, so there will always be demand for virgin fibre.

Nor has the paper and pulp industry built recycling plants because environmentalists have "pinned them to the wall". The £20 million recycling paper mill at Aylesford Newsprint in Kent will add £90 million a year to the UK balance of payments. Other mills too are investing heavily in plant, equipment and jobs because waste paper is far more abundant in the UK than virgin fibre.

The efforts of those who recycle their paper to make an environmental and economic contribution should not be undermined by bold claims which might grab a headline yet appear to be unsubstantiated.

Yours sincerely,  
BRYAN C. BATEMAN,  
Director,  
British Newsprint  
Manufacturers' Association,  
Papermakers' House,  
Rivenhall Road, Swindon, Wiltshire.  
January 5.

### Lines of inquiry

From Mr Ben Olds

Sir, Congratulations to Dr Daniel Dorling on his research findings that the equity in one's house determines one's lifespan (report, January 5). He may be interested to learn that by not moving for many years I have added over two years to my own.

There must be other worthwhile subjects for Dr Dorling's research. Is lifespan related to living in the inner city estates or rural suburbs; to profession, building labourer and clergyman for example; nights spent in hotels per year by star category? These and many other burning questions demand his urgent attention.

Yours faithfully,  
BEN OLDS,  
63 Brumete Avenue,  
Chilwell, Nottingham.  
January 5.



## COURT CIRCULAR

**YORK HOUSE,**  
ST JAMES'S PALACE  
January 8: The Duke of Kent this evening opened an exhibition of paintings of Brazil. Christies Great Rooms, King Street, London SW1.

### Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Olympic appeal at Bonham's Montpelier Street, at 7.00.

### Today's events

The Queen's Life Guard mounts at Horse Guards at 11am.

### Birthdays today

Major D.S. Allinson, equestrian Olympic medalist; Mr Justice Aifert; Ms Lady Anson, former deputy chairman, Association of District Councils; Ms Miss Joan Baez, folk singer; Ms Mr Hugh Bayley; MP; 44; Mrs M.L.S. Bennett, former Principal, St Hilda's College, Oxford; 63; Mr Harvey Berman-Brown, fashion designer; 30; Sir Rudolf Bing, former general manager, Metropolitan Opera, New York; 94; Mr Ken Brown, golfer; 39; Sir John Buckley, former chairman, Davy Corporation; 83; the Earl of Cardigan; 43; Mrs Christine Crawley, MEP; 46; Mr Clive Dunn, actor; 74; Sir Anthony Duran, MP; 68; Sir Graham Eyre QC; 65; Mr Michael Gifford, chief executive and managing director, Rank Organisation; 59; Father Benedict Green, theologian; 72; Mr Terry Handa, former artistic director, Royal Shakespeare Company; 55; Mr David Holbrook, author; 73; Mr L.J. Holliday, former chairman, John Laing Construction; 75; Mr Raymond Horne, former chairman, Austin Rover Group Holdings; 66; Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys; 46; Sir Michael Jenkins, diplomat; 64; Mr Simon Jervis, former Director, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; 52; Mr Justice Ognall; 62; Miss Joely Richardson, actress; 31; Mr Ralph Tubbs, architect; 84; Mr Denis Twine, former Governor, Canterbury prison; 56; Viscount Elswater; Sir Ivor Ward, Governor, Feltham Young Offenders' Institution; 51; Mr Geoffrey Wragg, racehorse trainer; 66; Miss Susannah York, actress; 54.

### Dinner

**The Athenaeum**  
The Archbishop of Canterbury was the speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Viscount Caldecote was the chairman.

## Anniversaries today

**BIRTHS:** John Jervis, Earl of St Vincent, Admiral of the Fleet, Stone, Staffordshire, 1735; Lascelles Abercrombie, poet and critic, Ashton-upon-Mersey, 1851; Dame Grace Fields, singer, Rochester, Lancashire, 1899; Simone de Beauvoir, novelist and critic, Paris, 1908; Rose Louise Hock (Gypsy Rose Lee), 1914.

**DEATHS:** Caroline Herschel, astronomer, Hanover, 1848; Napoleon III, French Emperor 1852-70, Chislehurst, Kent, 1873; Katherine Mansfield, writer, Fontainebleau, France, 1923; Karl Mannheim, sociologist, London, 1947; Pier Luigi Nervi, engineer and architect, Rome, 1979; Sir Charles Curran, Director-General of the BBC 1969-1977, 1980.

Income tax was introduced by William Pitt the Younger, 1799. Sir Humphry Davy's safety lamp was first used in a coalmine, 1816. Anthony Eden resigned as Prime Minister, 1957.

The liner Queen Elizabeth was destroyed by fire in Hong Kong harbour, 1972.

### The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications

The following have been granted Chartered Mathematician status and Fellowship of the Institute:

Dr D.J. Allwright, Dr T.J. Baker, Dr I. Beattie, Mr S. Berry, Mr N. Block, Mr E. Brown, Mr G.H. Boyd, Dr M. Bruce, Mr R.A.S. Cawood, Mr P.K. Chen, Mr J.D. Clegg, Dr D. Clegg, Mr D. Clegg, Dr D. Cowden, Dr D.N. Eastham, Mr J.A.F. Everett, Dr M.J.L. Greenhow, Dr P. Grundy, Mr J. Hamilton, Mr G. Hay, Dr M.A.A. Helal, Dr B. Hudson, Dr M.J. Hurst, Dr D.M.A. Johnson, Dr T. Keating, Dr D.M.A. Kershaw, Mr D.J. Kirby, Mr E. Lewis, Mr F. M. Lewis, Mr J. Lewis, Mr R.G. Lewis, Dr D.C. Mervin, Dr L.M. Miller, Dr P.J. Mitchell, Mr J. Morrissey, Dr A.J. Osiadacz, Dr J. Parry, Dr D.W. Pearson, Dr A.J. Pilato, Mr P.H. Readle, Dr A.J. Robbins, Mr T. Roger, Mr M. Rymer, Dr S.C. Ryrie, Dr F.M.L. Sellier-Mossewisch, Mr A.E. Tew, Mr P. Thomas, Mr N. Thorpe, Dr S.P. Townsend, Dr R.J. Verrall.

### Luncheon

**Coal Industry Society**  
Mr Richard Page, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Small Business, Industry and Energy, was the principal guest and speaker, and was introduced by Mr D.R.T. Waring, president at a luncheon of the Coal Industry Society held yesterday at the Park Lane Hotel. Mr C.R. Suly presided.

### Appointment

**Imperial Cancer Research Fund**  
Dr Paul Nurse has been appointed Director-General of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund from September 1, 1996, when Sir Walter Bodmer, the present director, moves to Oxford University as Principal of Herford College.

**Hospital**  
The Archbishop of Canterbury was the speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Viscount Caldecote was the chairman.

**Chigwell School**  
Lent Term at Chigwell School starts today and ends on Wednesday, March 27. Entrance examination



Prince Harry passes a gate as he slides down a hill skiing for Britain yesterday at Davos in the under-12 event during the 40th annual Anglo-Swiss parliamentary ski race. The 11-year-old Prince and his father were invited to take part in the downhill slalom on the final day of their skiing holiday

## School announcements

### Bedford High School

The Spring Term begins today and ends on March 27. The Concert of Wind Music is on March 19. The Gymnastics Display is on March 7 and 8. Junior assessments are on January 20 plus, January 21 plus and 10 plus; Senior Entrance Examinations and Assisted Places Examinations are on January 25.

The Senior School and Sixth Form will be open to prospective parents and their daughters on January 13. The Careers Conference will be on March 21.

The Bedford Charity (The Harper Trust) includes in its aims the provision of high quality education for girls. Charity registration no 204817.

**Benenden School**

Term starts today at Benenden School. Open mornings for parents of prospective students will be held on February 3 and 24. The Founders' Lecture, 'Who is God when things go wrong?', will be given by Sister Gemma Simmonds on March 3. Seniors' Day will take place on May 18 at the school.

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for 11 year age group entry and Harsnett Scholarship examinations will be held on Saturday, January 20 and for 7 to 10 year age groups on Saturday, January 13. The Music Scholarship auditions will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 2 and 3. The Lent Term Concert will take place on Tuesday, February 13, during the Arts Festival Week which will run from Monday to Friday, February 12 to 16. A full programme for the Arts Festival is available from the Headmaster's Secretary. Old Chigwellians who wish to attend the Shrove Tuesday Supper on February 20 should contact the Headmaster's Secretary.

**Churcher's College**

Spring Term begins today at Holmwood House, Colchester. Dazzle will be performed on Friday, March 13 and term ends with Open Morning on March 22.

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The Annual Hockey match between the OCC and the College takes place on March 24. The OCC dinner at the East India Club will be held on Friday, May 10, and bookings can be made through the College office. Term ends on March 29.

**The King's School, Canterbury**

The Lent term begins today. A Confirmation Service will be held in the Cathedral on Sunday, March 10, at which the Bishop of Dover will confirm. Term will end on Saturday, March 23.

**The King's School, Elms**

The Lent Term begins today. The new artificial sports surface will be officially opened for use on Saturday, January 20. There will be a professional hockey coaching session for Under 13s followed by a match between a celebrity team and the School's First Eleven players. The Concert Band will give their traditional New Year Concert with Buffet Supper in the Hayward Theatre on Friday, January 19, and the Music Festival Finalists' Concert will take place on Friday, February 16. The Junior School II+ Scholarship Examination will be held on Friday, February 2, and the Senior School Music Scholarships on Friday and Saturday, February 9 and 10. The Lord Bishop will conduct the Confirmation Service on Saturday, March 2, at 11.00 am in the Cathedral. The Junior School play *The Importance of Being Earnest* will be presented in the Hayward Theatre in matinee on Tuesday, March 12, and as evening performances on Wednesday, Thursday, March 13 and 14. The 1996 Osmond Lecture will be given by Dr Helen Sharman, OBE, on Friday, March 15, in the Hayward Theatre under the title 'Astronaut required - no experience necessary'. Tickets are available to interested Old Eleans and parents on application to the Deputy Head's secretary. The Hoop Trundle will be held on Saturday, March 16, at noon. The Senior School Choir will be joined by that of King's Peterborough and Northants School to sing Evensong in the Cathedral on Wednesday, March 20. Term ends at 12.30 pm on Friday, March 23.

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Manager of the month for December scoops £500 without need for transfer system

## Garfoot benefits from victory of forgotten heroes

In football, as in everything in life, you sometimes need a little luck. Until now, luck had been thin on the ground for Robert Garfoot. He has never won any competition, so the realisation that he was the Interactive Team Football (ITF) manager of the month for December — and the winner of £500 — has started his 1996 off on an unexpected high note.

Mr Garfoot had forgotten all about his team in the rush leading up to Christmas, although as a keen Liverpool supporter he had kept an eye on the mighty Red Machine as it relaunched its Premiership challenge. But, unbeknown to him, his ITF team were racking up 121 points during December.

The team is headed by Robbie Fowler, of Liverpool. "He's my star man," Mr Garfoot said. "He's been knocking them in left, right and centre and he's been great for me."

He was surprised, however, that the team as a whole had done so well. "I've got some players in there from QPR and Southampton and those teams haven't been doing that well. But I have got the best of their players — guys like Impy and Galien — and their individual performances are maybe better than their team's showing."

Mr Garfoot's full squad is: manager: Clarke (Nottingham Forest); Southall (Everton), Jones (Liverpool), Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur), Monks (Southampton), Unsworth (Everton), Batty (Blackburn Rovers), Sherwood (Blackburn Rovers), Bart-Williams (Nottingham Forest), Impy (Queens Park Rangers), Fowler (Liverpool), Galien (Queens Park Rangers).

A taste of victory has re-energised Mr Garfoot's enthusiasm and he is now determined

to study the form and venture into the transfer market for the first time. And he knows where he will spend his money, especially the winner's cheque. "I'm looking to start my own catering business here in Lincoln and the £500 will be going towards that."

Whether you are new to the transfer system, like Mr Garfoot, or an old hand, you can use it to improve your fortunes. The ITF system allows you to change up to two players each week. You must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (ie, a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget.

The ITF transfer system also allows you to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership. He would then no longer be eligible for ITF and would have to be replaced.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 333 331 line during the times given. Calls will be charged at 39 pence per minute cheap rate, 49 pence per minute at other times. If you are calling from the Republic of Ireland, you must call 004 499 020 0631 and you will be charged 58 pence per minute at all times.

You may make up to two transfers a week. A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category — for example, a full back for a full back — so that the formation of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager is maintained.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the £50,000 prize or the monthly £500 prizes.

With ITF, not only are you putting your selectorial skills against other readers of *The Times*, you are also matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association, Premiership players have entered sides of their own, and Darren Peacock of Newcastle United, gives his selection on the opposite page. Like him, you may spend £10 million on Alan Shearer — but will he do better than cheaper alternatives?

All matches in the Premiership and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs count and your players and manager win and lose you points. With Gohils Gods the new leaders of the competition, it is time for you to delve into the transfer market!

**□ All transfer queries regarding Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171 757 7016. Other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.**



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Lee Ferdinand, left, scored the equalising goal for Newcastle against Chelsea on Sunday. Is he a wise choice in the ITF at £8 million?

### HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All FA Carling Premiership and FA Cup matches in the 1995-6 season count for points. Every goal and penalty counts

POINTS SCORED			
Goalkeeper	4pts	Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scored goal	2pts
Scored goal	3pts	All players	1pt
Full back/Central defender	3pts	Appearance	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	1pt
Scored goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player	2pts	Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scored goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED			
Goalkeeper	2pts	Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender	1pt	Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scored own goal	1pt
All players	3pts	Manager	1pt
Sent off	3pts	Team losses	1pt

\* must have played for 75 minutes in the match  
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match

### HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 333 331

Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 5p.

If calling from the Republic of Ireland, call 004 499 020 0631.

You can make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector's PIN, which must be tapped in and not spoken. Follow the simple instructions and be the players' five-digit codes.

The line is open from 6am on Tuesday until 11pm on Saturday; from 6pm on Sunday to 11pm on Sunday and from 6pm on Sunday until 3pm on Monday. If there are midweek stores, the lines will also close at 3pm on the day of the match (or matches) and re-open the following day at 6am.

You may make up to (but no more than) two transfers a week. Each transfer is separate transaction and you must sell a player before you can buy one.

A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category — for example a full back for a full back.

When purchasing a player you must ensure that the team value still falls within the £35 million budget (even if your next transfer would readily exceed overspending) and does not exceed more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The score of the player transferred out is taken at the time of transfer; he then ceases to score for you.

Player out	Player in
Club	Club
Player out	Player in
Club	Club

### THE WEEK'S TRANSFERS IN ITF

Code	Player	IN Club	Value
21304	D Steffanow	Sheff Wed	£2.5m
31115	M Duberry	Chelsea	£2.5m
40205	J Egan	Liverpool	£1.8m
41209	A Clark	Arsenal	£1.8m
51306	D Kocicic	Sheff Wed	£2.0m
51706	R Ekelund	Man City	£2.5m
52005	N Bialek	Bolton	£2.5m
62001	C Todd	Bolton	£0.5m

Code	Player	OUT Club	Value
21703	D Brightwell	Man City	£0.75m
31703	M York	Man City	£1.5m
40205	J McNamee	Liverpool	£1.5m
49007	S Osborne	QPR	£0.75m
42005	M Patterson	Bolton	£0.75m
50304	G Bull	Newton Forest	£0.5m
62001	R McFarland	Bolton	£0.5m

### THE LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL



Call the ITF checklist on 0891 774 796

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. The line is open from noon today

105	Everton Men	(W Doyle)	317	Emirates	(T Rudd)	310
106	The Latics Lads	(G Pidcock)	317	Hoppers Steven	(P Pidcock)	310
108	Brentford Bouncers	(J Hurd)	317	County Pine A	(J Hunt)	309
115	Tottenham Enormers	(P Turner)	316	Holiday One	(A Brown)	309
116	Warrington Wizards	(J Buckle)	316	Garden FC	(K West)	309
117	Derby Rovers	(G B)	316	Nippies	(K Hughes)	309
118	Gary Pearce	(G D Pearce)	316	Friedman Rockets	(P Friedman)	309
119	Skylights	(J Dale)	316	Wembawee Stars	(A P Hanrahan)	309
120	Eggs N' Whean	(M D Warner)	316	Climbow Blues	(N Jones)	309
121	Overhill Rovers	(M R James)	316	Master Side	(C Devoyport)	309
122	OHME Boogies Misters	(R Mathewson)	316	Scout ITF	(Mr F Amore)	309
123	Just For Fun	(B Robinson)	315	Clarke's Kickers	(G Clarke)	309
124	Glassie's Goers	(N Thompson)	315	Chumpdown	(J Hibbs)	309
125	Orbital Brushes	(R B Nicholson)	315	Adams Man Or God 1	(R Pike)	309
126	No Sam Today	(J J Brannigan)	315	Supababyz 3	(G O'Donnell)	309
127	Pig In A Poke	(N Webb)	315	Chipchase Rovers	(S Allen)	309
128	Sky Blue Royales	(M R Watson)	315	Monkeys United	(P Brindley)	309
129	The UK Beavers	(J Elkins)	315	Fantasy Formbook	(Mr G Crutcher)	309
130	Melde Stiff Monsters	(M McHugh)	314	The Premier Raiders	(Miss C Ellis)	309
131	Robbie's Army	(J Baker)	314	The Bumblers	(J Smith)	309
132	Galaxy New FC	(E Sculthorpe)	314	Richie's Rovers	(Mrs S Carter)	309
133	Monster Monster	(M Parish)	314	County Pine O	(R Lovell)	308
134	Don Shuter C	(D Shuter)	314	Norman	(J Hunt)	308
135	Roosters Raiders 2	(D Rhodes)	314	County Pine N	(T Sigsworth)	308
136	Egerton Park	(R Paglin)	314	Year Stars	(J Hunt)	308
137	Reck Rovers	(J Lawson)	313	North Super Bob	(R Williams)	308
138	Anti-Saints	(J Sanderson)	313	Tando United	(D T Williams)	308
139	Retour City	(S A Bell)	313	Reds Endowments	(A A Shalley)	308
140	Score A Berdeven	(S A Bell)	313	Of Armaghion Yes	(C Hyde)	308
141	Taste Of Aberdeen	(S A Bell)	313	Mountain Eleven	(Mr D Gairn)	308
142	JSU 16	(R Sutton-Jones)	313	The Minds Fisted	(R J Dawson)	308
143	Good-Time Boys	(R P Crook)	313	No Hoppers	(S Harris)	308
144	All Tartan Army	(A A Gordon)	313	Roller Rovers	(D Hillman)	308
145	Turners Enormers 2	(P Turner)	313	Ruffstuff Rabbits	(J Whistley)	307
146	Jap 11	(J Parker)	312	Fingin Flyers	(R Ronald)	307
147	Acrobatic Ollie	(M R Raju)	3			

The players' weekly and overall scores and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pts	Wk On
0101	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	+10 -6
0102	B Minns	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0 +3
0201	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-3 -1
0301	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-8 -22
0302	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 0
0401	D James	Liverpool	3.50	+2+17
0402	A Warner	Liverpool	0.25	0 0
0501	J Lukic	Leeds United	3.00	-11
0502	M Beandy	Leeds United	0.75	+2 +3
0601	P Smicik	Newcastle United	3.00	+4 +4
0602	M Hooper	Newcastle United	1.00	0 0
0603	S Hislop	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +4
0701	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-2 0
0702	E Thorstvedt	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 0
0801	A Roberts	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0 -7
0802	S Dykstra	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0 0
0803	J Sommer	Wimbledon	1.50	-5 -7
0901	H Segers	Wimbledon	0.75	-1 -1
0902	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.50	-38
0903	P Heald	Southampton	1.50	0 0
1001	B Grobbelaar	Southampton	0.75	+4 -6
1002	D Bassett	Southampton	1.50	0 0
1101	D Khanine	Chester	2.50	+2 +8
1102	K Hitchcock	Chester	1.00	0 0
1201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+4+21
1202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.50	0 0
1301	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-8 -32
1302	C Woods	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0 0
1401	L Mirkosko	West Ham United	2.50	+5 -18
1402	L Sealey	West Ham United	0.50	0 0
1501	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-6 +7
1502	J Kearton	Everton	0.75	0 0
1601	S Ognizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-2 -19
1602	J Gould	Coventry City	0.75	0 0
1603	J Filan	Coventry City	1.50	-35
1701	A Coton	Manchester City	2.50	0 0
1702	A Dibble	Manchester City	2.50	0 0
1703	E Immett	Manchester City	2.00	+4 -12
1801	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	2.50	+10+24
1802	N Spink	Aston Villa	1.00	0 -1
1901	A Miller	Middlesbrough	2.00	0 +3
1902	G Welsh	Middlesbrough	0.75	-4 +3
2001	K Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	-2 -58
2002	A Davison	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0 0



Peacock's position in Newcastle's defence has given him the chance to gauge Premiership strikers at close quarters

## Peacock's proud display

Darren Peacock, a central defender for Newcastle United, picks his ITF team

HALFWAY through the season and am fourth in the players' table, am I? That is not bad. Still, there is a long way to go: it is a marathon not a sprint. I can come out with all the clichés just like a typical manager.

My team is called MBL's, although I have no idea why. I picked the side pre-season and I cannot remember what the name means. It is not the team I would like, it is the team I could afford.

I started with Alan Shearer, who cost me £10 million, but he is always worth the money for the number of goals he scores. Then I picked the rest of the team down the middle of the field—Bosnich in goal and the two centre halves—but the choices all came down to money.

Once the key players were in position, I pulled the rest out of a hat.

If I could change the rules, I would have picked most of the Newcastle team, but we are not allowed to pick players from our own club, which prevents that idea. Still, we have to pick our own manager and, after Shearer, Kevin Keegan is my top points scorer, so I cannot complain there.

The midfield players have done quite well for me, although Andy Sinton has not played much, so he has not got me that many points. I knew Gary McAllister would score a few goals: he gets a few free kicks and is also a penalty-taker

for Leeds, so there were points to be had there. Then there is David Batty. Although Blackpool did not have the best of starts to the season, Batty earned some points by scoring a goal the other week. He is also a good, solid player who puts a lot into his football. Hopefully, if Blackpool continue to show their best form, I will profit from it.

Andy Impye was an easy choice. He plays for my former club, Queens Park Rangers, so I knew what sort of player he would be in the team. That is why I also

chose David Bardsley and Clive Wilson

—I know them as players and I know what they can do.

Mark Bosnich was a good selection. Aston Villa have one of the best defensive records in the FA Carling Premiership, which means Bosnich has kept quite a few clean sheets this season—and that means more points for me.

Paul McGrath is a great defender, so he was a good choice for my team. How old is he now? 45! Well, maybe not quite, but he still keeps going and going. I think he has been injured, but he will be back—he always is. These days he does not bother so much with training; he turns out only for the games, but he is still a great player. I hope I am still going at his age.

By the time I came to pick my second striker, I was looking for someone inexpensive. It was a toss-up who to choose—there are not many inexpensive players around—but I went for Miku Paatelainen. With Bolton's record, he is not going to win me the league, but then again he has earned a few points and he cost only £70,000, so it is not that bad.

The transfer market has not tempted me yet. To be honest, I picked the team and left them to get on with it. But so far they have not done too badly for me. I am 37 points behind Ian Molyneux at the top, so I hope that I can close the gap.

### PEACOCK'S TEAM

Goalkeeper: M Bosnich (Aston Villa) £2.5m  
Full backs: C Wilson (Tottenham) £2.5m  
D Batty (Sheffield Wednesday) £2.5m  
Centre backs: P McAllister (Aston Villa) £1.5m  
(Sheff Wed) £1.5m  
Midfielders: A Impye (Leeds Utd) £4.0m  
G McAllister (Blackburn) £1.5m  
D Batty (Sheff Wed) £2.0m  
A Sinton (Sheff Wed) £2.0m  
Strikers: A Shearer (Blackburn) £10.0m  
M Paatelainen (Bolton) £0.75m  
Manager: K Keegan (Newcastle) £4.0m

for Peacock's team

Code	Name	Team	Pts	Wk On
0101	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	+8+15
0102	G Le Saix	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	0 +3
0103	J Keenan	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	+8+24
0201	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.50	+2+10
0202	P Parker	Manchester United	2.50	-3 -6
0203	G Neville	Manchester United	2.50	-4 -3
0204	P Neville	Manchester United	0.75	-3 +6
0301	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.50	+0+16
0302	D Lythe	Nottingham Forest	3.00	-3 -8
0303	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	-3 -12
0401	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	+0+23
0402	S Bjornby	Liverpool	3.00	0 +4
0403	S Harkness	Liverpool	0.75	+2+26
0501	T Dorige	Lids United	3.50	-1 -7
0502	G Kelly	Lids United	3.00	+2+11
0503	N Waddington	Lids United	1.50	+3 +2
0601	J Beresford	Newcastle United	3.00	+0+12
0602	M Hottiger	Newcastle United	3.00	0 0
0603	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	+3+21
0701	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-1 +6
0702	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	-1 -4
0703	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+3+22
0704	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 0
0801	D Bardisley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	-1 -5
0802	R Bravell	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0 -3
0803	N Zelias	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	-2 -5
0901	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.50	-6 -8
0902	G Elkjaer	Wimbledon	1.50	-6 -8
0903	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	1.50	-2 -14
0904	R Joseph	Wimbledon	0.75	0 0
1001	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	+4+16
1002	F Benali	Southampton	1.00	-1 -4
1003	S Charlton	Southampton	1.00	+5+10
1101	S Clarke	Chelsea	1.50	-1 -4
1102	S Minto	Chelsea	1.50	0 +3
1103	G Hall	Chelsea	0.50	+0 +9
1104	A Myers	Chelsea	0.50	+0+16
1105	T Phelan	Chelsea	1.50	0 0
1106	D Petrescu	Chelsea	2.50	+1+16
1201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	-1 +31
1202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+2+28
1203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.50	0 0
1301	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-3 -2
1303	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-2 -6
1401	J Dickens	West Ham United	3.50	+3 -3
1402	T Brecker	West Ham United	3.00	-0 -12
1403	K Brown	West Ham United	0.75	0 0
1404	K Rowland	West Ham United	0.75	+0 +9
1501	G Ablett	Everton	2.50	+2+12
1502	E Barrett	Everton	2.50	+0 +4
1503	M Jackson	Everton	1.50	+3+10
1601	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0 0
1602	A Pickering	Coventry City	1.00	+3 -2
1603	S Morgan	Coventry City	0.75	0 0
1604	M Hall	Coventry City	0.75	-0 -19
1702	R Edghill	Manchester City	1.50	-1 -1
1703	D Brightwell	Manchester City	0.75	0 0
1704	J Foster	Manchester City	0.75	-0 -1
1801	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	+8+30
1802	S Staunton	Aston Villa	4.50	0 +3
1803	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50	+11+32
1804	P King	Aston Villa	0.50	0 0
1805	B Small	Aston Villa	0.50	0 0
1901	C Blackmon	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 0
1902	N Cox	Middlesbrough	1.00	+1+22
1903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.75	-0 +24
1904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.50	-1 -6
2001	G Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	-0 -16
2002	S Green	Bolton Wanderers	0.25	+1 -12
2003	J Phillips	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	-1 -17
2004	A Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	-1 -6
2005	S McAnespie	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	+0 +1

for Peacock's team

Code	Name	Team	Pts	Wk On
<

# THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY JANUARY 9 1996

## NEWS

### Labour's all-women lists illegal

■ Labour's election planning was thrown into confusion yesterday when its policy of preventing men from standing in dozens of parliamentary seats was declared illegal by an industrial tribunal in Leeds.

The party immediately froze its process to select candidates in 14 constituencies, nine of which were close to making a choice from women-only shortlists, but it is almost certain to appeal against the ruling of sexual discrimination ..... Page 1

### New York crime rate frozen

■ The New York weather was so bad that even the muggers stayed at home. Police said there had been no homicides, stabblings or robberies since Saturday night. There are usually three or four murders a day. Officers checking reports of naked people snowballing found they were Californians ..... Page 1

### Mitterrand dies

World leaders paid tribute to François Mitterrand, the longest-serving French President who died from prostate cancer, aged 79. His funeral is on Thursday

Pages 1, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19

### Doctor's dog bait

An NHS trust paid £1,700 to import Fritz, the Rottweiler dog belonging to a consultant anaesthetist as part of a salary package to lure him from America, it was disclosed ..... Page 1

### Portillo anger

Michael Portillo accused enemies in the Conservative Party of running a campaign against him amid claims from his supporters of a left-wing plot to end his leadership chances ..... Page 2

### Blair's stake

Tony Blair promised that a Labour government would unite the country by trying to give every citizen a stake in the economy and a sense of belonging ..... Pages 2, 16

### Ken and Emma

The marriage of Emma Thompson and Kenneth Branagh had begun to founder three years before they announced their separation last October ..... Page 3

### In the rough

A champion woman golfer was suspended from her club after punching a businessman when he stroked her thigh, an industrial tribunal was told ..... Page 3

### Fantasy fairies float into film

■ A fairy story that fooled the public for over 60 years is to be filmed by Paramount as *The Golden Afternoon*. In 1917, two schoolgirl cousins, Elsie Wright, 15, and Frances Griffiths, 9, convinced Kodak and the novelist Sir Arthur Conan Doyle that they had photographed fairies dancing in woods in West Yorkshire. Elsie explained the hoax in 1983 ..... Page 6



Michael Portillo and his Japanese counterpart, Seishiro Eto, reviewing a guard of honour in Tokyo yesterday. Page 2

## BUSINESS

**Economy:** A surge in consumer spending during the second half could put base rates up to as much as 8 per cent in 1997, the Ernst & Young Item Club says ..... Page 23

**Marks & Spencer:** Britain's leading retailer has appointed its first woman to the board as an executive director. Clara Freeman, 43, is responsible for personnel ..... Page 23

**Forté:** Forté will have to raise its offer for Forte by about 15 per cent to have a chance of overcoming Forte's defence ..... Page 23

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 index closed 16.1 points up at a record 3720.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index was down from 83.5 to 83.4 after falling from \$1.5530 to \$1.5495 and from DM2.2326 to

DM2.2324 ..... Page 23

### Mother's sacrifice

Karine Ratcliffe, 31, who was on a Sunday walk, pushed her two young sons out of the path of a crashing car. She took the full force of the impact and was killed ..... Page 5

### Army of carers

Social work is become the fastest growing occupation with battalions of community care workers, residential care assistants and home helps recruited to look after an ageing population ..... Page 6

### Orphanage opened

China opened a Shanghai orphanage but failed convincingly to refute reports by a New York human rights group of deliberate starvation there ..... Page 7

### Anti-Dole drive

Five weeks before the Iowa caucuses, the Republican presidential candidates have attempted to deprive Robert Dole of their party's nomination ..... Page 8

### Balloon challenge

An American banker is trying to beat Richard Branson to the title of first man to circumnavigate the globe in a balloon, the last major aviation record ..... Page 9

### Fantasy fairies float into film

■ A fairy story that fooled the public for over 60 years is to be filmed by Paramount as *The Golden Afternoon*. In 1917, two schoolgirl cousins, Elsie Wright, 15, and Frances Griffiths, 9, convinced Kodak and the novelist Sir Arthur Conan Doyle that they had photographed fairies dancing in woods in West Yorkshire. Elsie explained the hoax in 1983 ..... Page 6

## SPORT

**Cricket:** Jack Russell has been left out of England's team for the first one-day international against South Africa despite his excellent Test form ..... Page 44

**Rugby union:** Michael Lynagh, captain of Australia in the last World Cup, has signed a three-year contract with Saracens. He is at present playing for the Italian club, Treviso ..... Page 44

**Football:** Manchester United will meet Uefa next month to demand to field as many European Union nationals as they wish in the three cup competitions ..... Page 44

**Racing:** In a case of mistaken identity at Southwell, Loch Style ran in the name of another horse, Taniyari, in the Waterford Median Auction Stakes ..... Page 44

**Sleaze serialised:** Thirty years of sleaze in British public life is the subject of an epic drama series on BBC TV from next week. *Our Friends in the North* ..... Page 33

**Entertainment:** The shortlist for the Brit Awards is dominated by Blur, Oasis, Radiohead and Pulp. David Sinclair asks whether this means Britpop commands a disproportionate amount of attention ..... Page 33

**Schiele on show:** The finest private collection of Egon Schiele paintings is on show in Düsseldorf, offering a superb survey of this provocative artist ..... Page 31

**Powerful Piccini:** In Leeds, Phyllida Lloyd has revived her superbly dramatic staging of *La Bohème* ..... Page 32

## TOMORROW

### IN THE TIMES

#### FASHION

Style with staying power: finding a sale bargain in classic cashmere

#### INTERFACE

Reader offer: save money when you connect to *The Times* on the Internet

**Ageless ageing, day 2:** Dr Thomas Stuttaford on male potency; Alan Coren on how to behave when older; Nigel Hawkes on the importance of vitamins and other substances; Rita Carter on the healthiest foods ..... Pages 12, 13

**School contracts:** Parents could soon have to sign agreements to ensure their children attend school and do homework. This proposal contains a serious flaw, Nigella Lawson says ..... Page 15

**New drug:** François Mitterrand died of cancer of the prostate. Dr Thomas Stuttaford says it can be cured if diagnosed quickly, and a new drug can relieve pain ..... Page 14

**FRANK FIELD**

Under stakeholders' welfare, self-improvement would again be put at the heart of Labour's policies. A reconstituted National Insurance scheme, with benefits more clearly linked to contributions, would also open the door to a contributor-run organisation ..... Page 16

#### CHARLES BREMNER

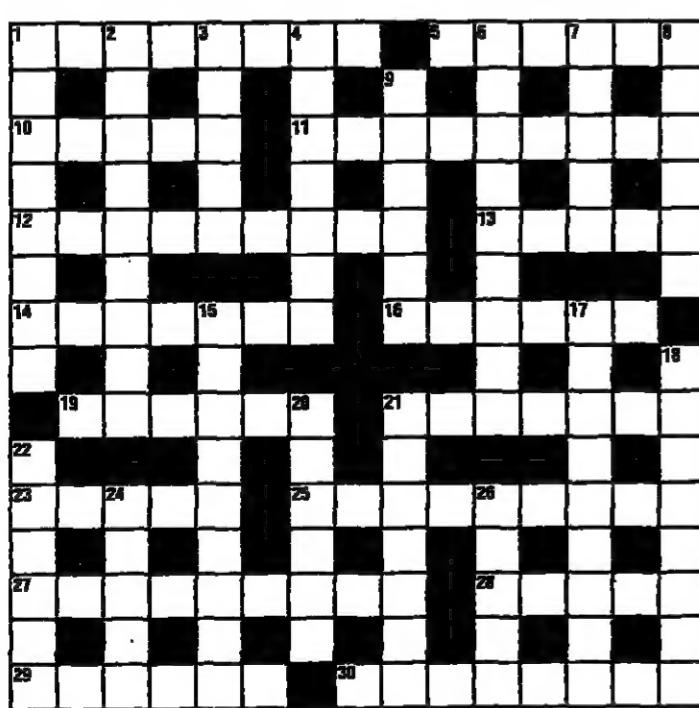
François Mitterrand said often enough that he wanted to go down in history as the builder of the new Europe of Maastricht. Failing that, he made sure he would be remembered as the architect of the new Paris ..... Page 16

#### France Mitterrand, President of France

France Mitterrand, President of France

**Objections to Dr Masuri's exposition:** Benefits of recycling paper; Labour and welfare; Irish peace; Gurkha stigma ..... Page 17

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,059



### ACROSS

1 Recoil from bribe (8).

5 Representations setting motorway back by years (6).

10 Long story without point (5).

11 Collapse and sell up completely (3,4,2).

12 In a predicament as honest error revolved head (2,3,4).

13 Silly person cooking this bird ruins plan (5).

14 Found out, as Uriah was, in a way (7).

16 Corrective efforts when deserter's apprehended in time (6).

19 Kidnapping in US succeeded, of course, briefly (6).

21 Appropriate vessel for Cook? (7).

23 Lead removed from toy gun (5).

25 Slogan resulting from discussion with hunter, perhaps (9).

27 Reprove players taking single in front of wicket, say (9).

28 International volunteers going in first in unpleasant spot (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,058

**ACCOMPlice, OBOLI**  
M H A A R E R I  
BRACKEN INEXACT  
O R G M H W E  
SHIFTLESS IDIOT  
Y H R O N A  
TEASE SYNDICAL  
H R A T I  
EPICUREAN HAIRY  
R N A L E P  
ASHEN RIGHTEOUS  
P O I L E I O N  
INTONED RAMPANT  
S E G O I E R E  
TALK AMBASSADOR

29 Doctor has to move carefully to operate on bed (6).

30 Harvest fruit crop up again (8).

31 Number in huge Egyptian celebration (5).

32 Skilled workers put together vessel's pieces (9).

33 Number in huge Egyptian celebration (5).

34 Acclaimed and honoured internationally with Nobel finally clinched (7).

35 Animals collected with various game round new lake (9).

36 Relish nothing more than a breath of fresh air (5).

38 Musicians' exercises with direction in prescribed form (6).

39 Reluctant to enter church in cloak (6).

40 Writing characters into the script? (9).

41 Try to put off casual worker with no increment (9).

42 One hoping to take game and depart deliriously with gold (8).

43 Star for Jumbo pilot who had shakes (6).

44 Upset about article, but you'll have to accept it (2,5).

45 Held up as railway service of top quality? departs (6).

46 Shakespearean clown's singular entry in public entertainment (5).

47 Agitated male workers getting little money (3,2).

48 Solution to Puzzle No 20,058

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